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Our Mission

Saint Thomas Aquinas High School is a Catholic educational community that inspires students to become Saints.

Called to be Saints

Saint Thomas Aquinas High School is a Catholic educational community that fosters excellence and empowers students to pursue life as a Saint.

We are called to be saints. Saints are persons in heaven (officially canonized or not), who lived heroically virtuous lives. Virtue is a path to happiness. Virtue is a habit to choose the good.

The **Cardinal Virtues** are: **Justice, Prudence, Temperance, and Fortitude**

The **Theological Virtues** are: **Faith, Hope, and Charity**

Vision of a Saint Thomas Aquinas Graduate

PRUDENCE	JUSTICE	FORTITUDE	TEMPERANCE
<p>Recognizes one's identity in the person of Jesus Christ</p> <p>Seeks good counsel to make wise decisions.</p> <p>Devotes time to prayer each day to discern God's plan for one's life.</p> <p>Knows one's strengths, weaknesses, desires, and fears.</p> <p>Lives the FAITH.</p>	<p>Recognizes all people as made in the image of God with equal and immeasurable worth.</p> <p>Lives with integrity even in challenging circumstances.</p> <p>Communicates honestly, both in words and deeds, fostering trust and accountability within relationships and COMMUNITY.</p> <p>Seeks the good of others by service to the school and local community.</p> <p>Demonstrates intellectual curiosity about the world, actively engaging in the building of God's Kingdom.</p>	<p>Summons courage in the face of adversity, embracing challenges with determination and resilience, remembering the words of Scripture, <i>'Be not afraid.'</i></p> <p>Cultivates discipline, maintaining focus and perseverance in the pursuit of goals, even when obstacles arise.</p> <p>Forges ahead with EXCELLENCE, facing setbacks with a steadfast commitment to values.</p>	<p>Expresses gratitude.</p> <p>Witnesses to God's grace by living a joyful life in Christ.</p> <p>Gives of one's self in SERVICE to others with patience and compassion.</p> <p>Is courteous and well mannered.</p> <p>Efficiently balances time to incorporate academic study, adequate rest, recreational activities, socializing with friends, and practicing the faith.</p>

The soul is perfected by knowledge and virtue.

-St. Thomas Aquinas



Cardinal Virtues

Prudence

(Sound Judgement)

Enables one to reason and to act rightly in any given situation

- Circumspection
- Docility
- Foresight

Justice

(Fairness)

Enables one to give to each, beginning with God, what is due him.

- Affability
- Courtesy
- Generosity
- Gratitude
- Kindness
- Loyalty
- Obedience
- Patriotism
- Prayerfulness
- Respect
- Responsibility
- Sincerity
- Trustworthiness

Temperance

(Self-Control)

Enables one to be moderate in the pleasure and use of created goods.

- Honesty
- Humility
- Meekness
- Moderation
- Modesty
- Orderliness
- Self-Control

Fortitude

(Courage)

Enables one to endure difficulties and pain for the sake of what is good.

- Industriousness
- Magnanimity
- Magnificence
- Patience
- Perseverance

Catholic Outreach Community Service Program

Students must give at least 80 service hours during their four years to exemplify the lifelong call to Christian service and the Mission of Saint Thomas Aquinas.

Freshman - 16 hours

Sophomore - 16 hours

Junior - 24 hours

Senior - 24 hours

The service undertaken should embody the Works of Mercy and adhere to the outlined requirements available on the Service and Outreach page of the website.

The completion of the service will make up 10% of the Theology course grade each semester. Additional information can be found on our Campus Ministry pages at www.stasaints.net.

QUICK TIP

Service opportunities are available throughout the school year. Click on Service & Outreach under Faith & Service on our website.



Saint Thomas Aquinas Course Selection Information

The following information is provided to allow conversations between parent, student, teachers and counselors.

STA provides many academic opportunities for students to explore their future pathways. Scholarship, Catholic Leadership and Service are important facets to develop.

Parents/guardians can share insight with their students in seeing their strengths and aligning them with their future interests and goals.

Teachers are available to discuss the curriculum with students and provide understanding of the best opportunities for them. Teachers will recommend core courses. They work to appropriately recommend their students for success, as the student's ability and work ethic is demonstrated.

Counselors will assist students and parents in developing an Individualized Plan of Study.

Course selections cannot be guaranteed but will be provided based on availability, class size and meeting pattern.

Core Courses

- Each student takes seven classes per semester including Theology and English which are required every year. With the exception of credit recovery, all core courses in English, math, science and theology must be taken in the building and taught by Saint Thomas Aquinas teachers.
- Saint Thomas Aquinas participates with Johnson County Community College and Rockhurst University to give students the opportunity to earn college credits while still in high school. Advanced Placement Exams, which are administered each May, also afford the opportunity to earn credit from colleges.

QUICK TIP

Teachers recommend your core classes every semester based on your performance in class.

Schedule Changes

Schedule changes may be made only for sound academic reasons and must be completed during the published time frame in the school calendar. All other changes must be approved by the school administration.

A fee of \$20 will be charged for each schedule change.

No drops are permitted during the semester.

Students may pick up schedule change request forms from the Academic Counseling Office or online.



Special Services

Students seeking special learning accommodations such as alternate setting and extended time for all academic tests should submit all current records (IEP, 504, testing, doctor/psychologist diagnosis, documented learning disability) at the time of registration. In order to meet the needs of the student, the Student Intervention Team of Saint Thomas Aquinas will review these documents and make recommendations suitable to a high school program and to the existing resources of Saint Thomas Aquinas.

Yearly meetings will be held for each person and will include parents and students.

We offer limited special services to assist students in the pursuit of academic excellence and maturity to the adult world. The journey to maturity requires the work of many – accountability by the student, cooperation from family, support of educators and understanding of the growth process. Young students need to become self-advocates and learn the skills to cope with their unique learning issues. As such, as students grow and no longer use the accommodations, they will be removed at the next annual meeting.

Academic Probation

Any student failing two or more academic courses for a semester will be placed on academic probation.

Students who fail two or more classes while on academic probation will not be allowed to return to Saint Thomas Aquinas High School.

In addition to the above, in order to remain at Saint Thomas Aquinas, a student must be making reasonable progress toward graduation. Reasonable progress will be viewed as credits in the required graduation curriculum as follows:

At the beginning of:

- 10th grade – a student must have a minimum of 6 academic credits.
- 11th grade – a student must have a minimum of 13 academic credits.
- 12th grade – a student must have a minimum of 20 academic credits.

Note: academic credits do not include Catholic Outreach service hours credit.

Students who end the prior grade with fewer than the above “specified credits” need to complete credit recovery through Edgenuity. It is highly recommended that students complete this over summer break. One credit is the customary maximum credit available during the summer.

Students may only obtain 2 credits maximum through the credit recovery program throughout their 4 years at Saint Thomas Aquinas High School.

Saint Thomas Aquinas reserves the right to require that specific courses be taken from our faculty.

Credit Recovery Contracts

Contracts will be awarded to students who have earned a 56% - 66% the first semester of a math or foreign language class.

If a student successfully completes the second semester of the course with the requested grade and follows all the requirements of the contract, retroactive credit will be given by changing the first semester grade to a 67%.

The academic counselor will meet with each student in January to discuss the process. This contract offer is based on the premise that in order for a student to succeed in the second semester, he/she must acquire a working knowledge of the material learned from the first semester.



Graduation Requirements

Class of 2026 & 2027

Theology	4
Technology	0.5 <i>(DCA)</i>
English Language Arts	4
Fine and Performing Arts	1
Math	3
Science	3 <i>(Bio, Chem, Science Elective)</i>
Social Studies	3 <i>(W Hist, US Hist, Gov, SS Elective)</i>
World Languages	2
Physical Education	1 <i>(0.5 PE, 0.5 Health)</i>
Speech	0.5
Personal Finance	0.5 <i>(JR Year)</i>
Electives	4.0
Total Credits for Graduation	27

Class of 2028 and Beyond

Theology	4
Technology	0.5 <i>(DCA taken 9th grade)</i>
English Language Arts	4
Fine and Performing Arts	1
Math	3
Science	3 <i>(Bio, Chem, Science Elective)</i>
Social Studies	3 <i>(W Hist, US Hist, Gov, SS Elective)</i>
World Languages	2 <i>(same language)</i>
Physical Education	1
Health	0.5
Speech	0.5
Personal Finance	0.5 <i>(JR Year)</i>
STEM	0.5 <i>(Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)</i>
Electives	4.0
Total Credits for Graduation	27.5





Qualified Admissions

High School Graduates Academic Year 2022-2023 and After

The six state universities in Kansas--Emporia State University, Fort Hays State University, Kansas State University, Pittsburg State University, The University of Kansas, and Wichita State University--use the standards below, set by the Kansas Board of Regents, to review applicants for undergraduate admission.

ACCREDITED HIGH SCHOOL

Freshman applicants, under the age of 21, who graduate from an accredited high school, will be guaranteed admission to six state universities by meeting the Qualified Admissions requirements designated by each university, as follows:

ESU, PSU, FHSU, & WSU:

- Cumulative High School GPA 2.25+ or ACT 21+ (SAT 1060)*

K-State:

- Cumulative High School GPA 3.25+ or ACT 21+ (SAT 1060)*

KU:

- Cumulative High School GPA 3.25+
OR Cumulative GPA 2.0+ and ACT 21+ (SAT 1060)*

ALL Institutions Require:

- Cumulative GPA 2.0+ for College Credits earned in High School

KANSAS SCHOLARS CURRICULUM IS RECOMMENDED BUT NOT REQUIRED: To best prepare for the rigor of college-level courses, the Kansas Scholars curriculum is recommended.

One unit is equivalent to one year, or two semesters:



English
4 units



Math
4 units
1 unit of each:
Algebra 1, Geometry,
Algebra II
1 unit: Advanced Math
See [KS Scholars page](#)
For Math course list



Social Science
3 units
1 unit U.S. History
.5 unit U.S. Gov
.5 unit World History
1 unit: Social Science course
See [KS Scholars Page](#) for
Social Science course list



Science
3 units
1 unit of each:
Biology, Chemistry, &
Physics



Foreign Language
2 units of the same
language

KANSAS SCHOLARS Program: More information about the Kansas Scholars Scholarship & Curriculum can be found [here](#) (pdf).

HOMESCHOOL & UNACCREDITED HIGH SCHOOL

Freshman applicants, under the age of 21, who are homeschooled or graduate from an unaccredited high school will be guaranteed admission to the six state universities by achieving an ACT score equivalent to those outlined above, per each university. If you enroll in college courses while in high school, it is also required that you achieve a 2.0 GPA or higher in those courses.

**If you do not meet the qualified admission requirements, you are still encouraged to apply. Your application will be reviewed individually. Contact the university admissions office for more information.*

This document provides a summary overview of admission requirements at state universities and is not a substitute for or to be used in lieu of the actual detailed admissions requirements, which can be found at: www.kansasregents.org/qualified_admissions_rules_regulations.



KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS

Kansas Scholars Curriculum & State Scholar Quick Facts

Completion of the Kansas Scholars Curriculum is one of the requirements Kansas residents must meet in order to receive State Scholar designation. This occurs during the senior year of high school.

What are the other requirements to become a State Scholar?

- Students must have taken the ACT between April of the sophomore year and December of the senior year.
- Students must be a Kansas resident.
- Students must have their curriculum and 7th semester GPA certified on the official roster by the high school counselor, registrar, or similar official.

KANSAS SCHOLARS CURRICULUM

English - 4 years

One unit to be taken each year. Must include substantial recurrent practice in writing extensive and structured papers, extensive reading of significant literature, and significant experience in speaking and listening.

Mathematics - 4 years

Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, and one unit of advanced mathematics-- suggested courses include: Analytic Geometry, Trigonometry, Advanced Algebra, Probability and Statistics, Functions or Calculus. Completion of Algebra I in 8th grade is acceptable; the student would then only need three years of math in high school.

Science - 3 years

One year each in Biology, Chemistry, and Physics, each of which include an average of one laboratory period a week. Applied/technical courses may not substitute for a unit of natural science credit.

Social Studies - 3 years

One unit of U.S. History; minimum of one-half unit of U.S. Government and minimum of one-half unit selected from: World History, World Geography or International Relations; and one unit selected from: Psychology, Economics, U.S. Government, U.S. History, Current Social Issues, Sociology, Anthropology, and Race and Ethnic Group Relations. Half unit courses may be combined to make this a whole unit.

World Language - 2 years

Two years of one language. Latin and Sign Language are accepted.

What is the benefit of completing the Kansas Scholars Curriculum?

Students that complete this curriculum and meet the other requirements, may be designated as State Scholars, which makes one eligible to receive the Kansas State Scholarship as provided by the Kansas Legislature. The academic profile of recent scholars include an average ACT of 29 and an average GPA of 3.92. State Scholars may receive up to \$1,000 annually for up to four undergraduate years (five, if enrolled in a designated five-year program), based on financial need and the availability of State funds. Financial need is measured by federal methodology using data submitted on the FAFSA.

For more information, contact us at (785) 430-4300 or at scholars@ksbor.org.

Earning College Credit in High School

College Board Advanced Placement (AP) Courses

Upon approval of the College Board and the Advanced Placement Course Audit, Saint Thomas Aquinas High School will offer Advanced Placement Courses, in addition to offering the Advanced Placement Exam. The AP program prepares students to sit for the AP Exam in May of the corresponding academic year, which may qualify students to receive college credit based on their AP Exam Score. The fee for this exam is set by the College Board + the cost of administering the exams by Saint Thomas Aquinas High School. Registration for the exam occurs during the fall semester and all students take their AP exams during the May Testing schedule which is set by the College Board. Specific details on the exams can be found at apstudent.collegeboard.org.

QUICK TIP

Visit the college board AP Program website to learn more about courses and how different colleges handle AP credit and more. apstudent.collegeboard.org

Advanced Placement Course Grade Level

Social Studies

AP World History* 10
AP US History* 11
AP US Government & Politics 12
AP Psychology
AP Macroeconomics* 11,12

Mathematics

AP PreCalculus 10, 11, 12
AP Calculus AB 11, 12
AP Calculus BC 11, 12
AP Statistics 11, 12

English Language Arts

AP English Language & Composition* 11
AP English Literature & Composition 12

Science

AP Chemistry 11,12
AP Physics 11,12

Business & Computer Science

AP Computer Science Principles 9-12

* Students who enroll in the course may be required to take the AP Exam (See course description for exam requirements).

Dual Enrollment College Credit Programs

Saint Thomas Aquinas works with Johnson County Community College and Rockhurst University to help students obtain college credit while they are in high school. For both programs, the student is required to register with Saint Thomas Aquinas and the college credit granting institution. Tuition and fees for the course(s) are set by the institution granting credit and must be paid by the institution's fee payment deadline, in the fall or spring of enrollment semester. Students may be enrolled in both colleges in the same semester. All courses are taught on the Saint Thomas Aquinas campus, with credit granted by both Saint Thomas Aquinas and the college institution. Please note that the deadlines for enrollment for both programs is strictly enforced by each institution. Saint Thomas Aquinas high school does not set the college enrollment deadlines and fee structure for each program.



Rockhurst University (RU): Healthcare Pathway

All students who enroll in the Nursing and Health Professional classes MUST enroll at Rockhurst University for credit.

STA Course	Rockhurst Univ. Course	Credit Hours	Grade Level
Nursing Exploration	Nursing Exploration NUR 1100	2	11-12
Intro to Health Professions	Intro to Health Professional HP 1599	2	11-12

Johnson County Community College (JCCC): College Now & Quick Step+

The College Now and QuickStep+ programs are offered in cooperation with Johnson County Community College. Students may opt to enroll for JCCC credit if they are enrolled in the following Saint Thomas Aquinas courses. www.jccc.edu/collegenow

JCCC College Now Course(S)

STA Course	JCCC Course	Hours	Grade Level
H Eng 4 Composition 1*	Engl 121	3	12
H Eng 4 Composition 2*	Engl 122	3	12
H Coll Biol Prin of Cell; Molecular Bio	Bio 135	4	11, 12
H Span 3	Elem Span 1 FL 130	5	10, 11, 12
H Span 4/5	Elem Span 2 FL 131	5	10, 11, 12
AP Statistics Statistics*	Math 181	3	12
AP Calculus AB Calculus I*	Math 241	5	11, 12
AP Calculus BC Calculus II*	Math 242	5	11, 12
H Am History	US History Hist 141	3	11

JCCC Quick Step+ Course

STA Course	JCCC Course	Hours	Grade Level
College Algebra	College Algebra* Math 171	3	11,12

*Course has a prerequisite – see jccc.edu/early_college for details.

Students must meet requirement, prior to start of academic year.

JCCC Career Ready Course Opportunities

Partnership with JCCC began 24/25 school year.

We have a Fall field trip to learn about the Career Ready Fields at JCCC.

Then soph/junior students come to the Information Night in January at JCCC.

Junior students who are interested meet with Deb Castinado to discuss credits/grad requirements and have an interview.

Candidates are then submitted to JCCC.

Process begins at JCCC and we are notified who is accepted in the Spring to begin JCCC registration process.

Deb Castinado adjusts the STA schedule to accommodate the Career Ready Program.

See Quick Tip for class options.

QUICK TIP

Go to <https://www.jccc.edu/admissions/early-college/career-ready/> for more information about all the class opportunities.



Grading and Weighted Courses

Weighted Courses: Honors & Advanced Placement (AP)

Courses marked Honors or AP earn an additional 5 percentage points when GPA is calculated each semester.

The points are added during the calculation of the semester and cumulative GPA. You will not see the 5 percentage points reflected in the printed grade on the grade card or transcript. Students must earn 77% or above in order to receive the extra percentage points. Students who fail an honors course during the first

semester will be moved to the grade-level equivalent course for second semester (e.g., a student who fails honors biology first semester will be moved to biology during the second semester).

National Merit

The National Merit Scholarship Program is an annual academic competition among high school students for recognition and college undergraduate scholarships. The program is conducted by National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC®), a not-for-profit organization that operates without government assistance. High school junior students enter the National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the Preliminary SAT/ National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®), and by meeting published program entry and participation requirements.

The PSAT/NMSQT test is held in October.

For more information, go to nationalmerit.org.

Athletic Eligibility

KSHSAA Eligibility

In order to participate in KSHSAA activities, students must meet the following criteria.

Scholarship

The student shall have passed at least five new subjects (those not previously passed) of unit weight, or its equivalency, the previous semester or the last semester of attendance.

This requirement is waived for the first semester of the 9th grade year.

Enrollment

The student shall be enrolled in and attending a minimum of five new subjects (those not previously passed) of unit weight or its equivalency, during the present semester.

High school students dually enrolled in colleges, who have their college hours recorded on their high school transcript, may count five hours of college credit as two subjects of unit weight or three hours of college credit as one subject of unit weight.

Students must notify the academic counselor immediately if a college course is dropped. Failure to do so will jeopardize their participation and the team's eligibility in interscholastic competition.

QUICK TIP

Grades below 67% are failing.

A bonus of five points will be added to the GPA calculation of an AP & honors course if the grade is 77% or above.

First Honors

Semester grade average of 90.00-95.99%.

Principal's Honor Roll

Semester grade average of 96.00% or higher.

Magna Cum Laude Scholars

Four-year cumulative grade average between 96.00% – 98.99%.

Summa Cum Laude Scholars

Four-year cumulative grade average of 99.00% or higher.



Academic Eligibility

Academic eligibility is enforced for all students participating in a KSHSAA sport, a KSHSAA activity, a school – affiliated club sport, show choir, or theater.

If a student has one or more failing grades (<67%) they will be placed in study hall until the grade is raised.

Students may have a failing grade for 3 weeks and still retain their eligibility to compete provided they are attending study hall daily.

Study hall is provided in the mornings from 7:15 AM – 7:45 AM and in the afternoon from 3:10 PM – 3:40 PM.

Students only need to attend either the morning or the afternoon session each day.

Once a student has been in study hall for 4 consecutive weeks or more they will become immediately ineligible for competition.

Academic eligibility does not impact a student's ability to practice with the team.

Once a student raises their grade to passing ($\geq 67\%$) they will no longer be required to attend study hall and they will immediately be eligible to compete.

Study Hall Notification Procedure

A grade report will be run every Friday throughout the semester.

All students with a failing grade will be notified Friday morning that they have been placed in study hall for the following week.

Parents/Guardians and coaches will be notified on Friday afternoon as well.

This notice will also inform them of their eligibility status for the following week.

It is the responsibility of the student to communicate with their teacher(s) about how they can raise their grade and to the Director of Student Life if their grade improves and is no longer failing.

The goal is not to hold the students out of competition. The goal is to maintain the high standard of academic excellence at Saint Thomas Aquinas High School.

Student Athletes - NCAA Eligibility

If you wish to participate in NCAA Division I or II athletics, you need to be certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center. You need to qualify academically, and you will also need to be cleared as an amateur student-athlete. You are responsible for achieving and protecting your eligibility status! The NCAA Eligibility Center encourages you, the student, to take an active role in this process. Take time to complete the registration with your parents. Saint Thomas Aquinas will begin sending transcripts for students who have registered through NCAA, in spring of the student's junior year. Work closely with the Director of College Placement, and campus NCAA Compliance Coordinators to ensure your academic eligibility. Detailed information can be found at www.eligibilitycenter.org, for Division I and Division II academic qualifications.





Individual Plan of Study

Career Interest(s) _____

Stewardship Assesst(s) _____ (SEE NEXT PAGE FOR LISTINGS)

Graduation Requirements	9th Grade	Credits	10th Grade	Credits	11th Grade	Credits	12th Grade	Credits
Theology (4 credits)	Theology 9A Theology 9B	1	Theology 10A Theology 10B	1	Theology 11A Theology 11B	1	Faith & Reason Elective	1
English (4 credits)	English 1 OR Honors English 1	1	English 2 OR Honors English 2	1	English 3 OR AP Lang & Comp	1	English 4 OR Honors English 4 OR AP Lit & Comp	1
Mathematics (3 credits)		1		1		1		
Science (3 credits)	Biology OR Honors Biology 1	1	Physical Science OR Chemistry OR Honors Chemistry	1	Physics OR AP Physics OR Science Choice	1		
Social Studies (3 credits)			World History OR AP World History	1	American History OR Honors American History OR AP US History	1	Government OR AP Government AND Social Studies Elective	1
Physical Education (1 credit)								
Health (2028+) (.5 credit)								
Technology (.5 credit)	Digital Creative Applications	.5						
Fine & Performing Arts (1 credit)								
World Languages (2 credits same language)								
Speech (.5 credit)								
Personal Finance (.5 credit)					Personal Finance	.5		
S.T.E.M. (.5 credit)								
Individual Focus (4 credits)								
Total Credits 27 (26-27 GR YR) 27.5 (28+ GR YR)								

Stewardship Assessts

The following is a list of state board-approved stewardship assest students can choose from to fulfill graduation requirements. **2 assets are recommended.**

- ACT composite (Score of 21 or higher)
- 9+ college hours
- State Assessment scores of 3 or 4 in math, ELA, science
- ASVAB per requirements of military branch selected
- Senior project/senior exit interviews
- SAT score (1060 or higher)
- Completing Board of Regents curriculum
- Advanced Placemnt Exam (3+)
- 95% attendance in high school
- Youth Apprenticeships
- 40 or more community service hours
- Client-centered projects
- Workplace learning directly related to IPS
- Industry recognized certifications
- Seal of Biliteracy
- CTE Scholar
- Eagle Scout or Gold Scout
- Two or more high school athletics/activities

Freshman Schedule

The following is given as an example of how a freshman student might plan courses at Saint Thomas Aquinas. These are suggestions; however, a student may certainly individualize his/her program. Students enroll in 7 credits each year. You may enroll in as many as 8 credits if you select a ZERO HOUR class.

1st Semester

Theology 9A ½ cr.

English ½ cr.

DCA ½ cr.

Biology ½ cr.

Spanish 1 ½ cr.

Math ½ cr.

Speech ½ cr.

3.5 credits

2nd Semester

Theology 9B ½ cr.

English ½ cr.

Physical Ed. ½ cr.

Biology ½ cr.

Spanish 1 ½ cr.

Math ½ cr.

Health ½ cr.

Fine Art ½ cr.

4 credits

Department Heads

English Department

Andrew Lee
alee@stasaints.net

Fine Arts

Kim Spillman
kspillman@stasaints.net

Foreign Languages

Lisa Stoecklein
lstoecklein@stasaints.net

Mathematics

Lisa Andrews
landrews@stasaints.net

Practical Arts

Kerri Jennings
kjennings@stasaints.net

Science

Katie Flournoy
kflournoy@stasaints.net

Business/Technology

Courtney DeNegri
cdenegri@stasaints.net

Social Studies

Stephanie Cloues
scloues@stasaints.net

Theology

Ryan Best
rbest@stasaints.net

Academic Counselor

Deb Castinado
dcastinado@stasaints.net
913.319.2453

Director of College Placement

Liz Majors
lmajors@stasaints.net
913.319.2477

Director of Special Services

Dr. Heather Wolf
hwolf@stasaints.net
913.319.2411

Social/Emotional Counselor

Laura Oliva
loliva@stasaints.net
913.319.2457

Social Emotional Counselor / Test Coordinator

Matt Hallauer
mhallauer@stasaints.net
913.319.2418

Mission Integration Team

Sarah Ikenberry
sikenberry@stasaints.net
913.319.2403
Sonja Salazar
ssalazar@stasaints.net
Fr Colm Larkin
frcolm@stasaints.net

Personal Calling Pathways

Saint Thomas Aquinas High School offers many electives that can help you take a first step toward a career.

We have academic partnerships with Johnson County Community College and Rockhurst University, as well as Blue Valley CAPS program.

If you do not yet know which career cluster you are interested in, you may visit www.stasaints.net/careerfinder for resources to help you. Or, you can simply browse the courses and find one that looks appealing.



Religious Studies

Sociology
 Psychology/AP Psychology
 All Theology Electives
 Business Classes
 Public Speaking
 Cultural Studies
 Contemporary Issues
 Campus Ministry
 Social Justice



Business

Intro Business Analytics
 Excel for Business
 Graphic Design
 Accounting
 AP Statistics
 Personal Finance
 Business Communications
 Marketing Entrepreneurship
 Yearbook
 Halo
 AP Computer Science
 Principles



Communications

Graphic Design
 Forensics
 Sociology
 Psychology/AP Psychology
 Business Communications
 Marketing
 Yearbook
 Halo
 Contemporary Issues



Engineering

All Math Classes
 Drafting
 Drawing or Visual Arts
 Stagecraft
 Chemistry 1 or Chemistry 2
 Physics/AP Physics 1
 AP Computer Science
 Principles
 Business Classes
 Principles of Applied
 Engineering 1 & 2



Health Science

Sociology
 Psychology/AP Psychology
 Physical Education
 AP Statistics/AP Calculus
 Child Development
 Honors College Biology
 Business Communications
 Honors Anatomy &
 Physiology
 Social Justice
 Philosophy of Death
 Contemporary Issues
 AP Physics



Fine Arts

Acting or Theater
 Choir or Band
 Graphic Design
 Film as Literature
 Interior Design
 Psychology/AP Psychology
 Sociology
 Marketing
 Stagecraft



Independent Living

Foods
 Sociology
 Psychology/AP Psychology
 Skills for Living
 Forensic Science
 Personal Finance
 Cultural Studies
 Christian Lifestyles
 Child Development



Education

Sociology
 Psychology/AP Psychology
 Peer Tutoring
 Campus Ministry
 Forensics
 Child Development
 Contemporary Issues



THEOLOGY

KR = No courses in the Theology Department are included in the Qualified Admissions Approved Curriculum for KS Regents Universities

The Saint Thomas Aquinas Theology Department is committed to deepening students' relationship with Jesus Christ through prayer, the study of a variety of subjects and community service. Teachers and students are to model Christ in all aspects of their lives, including daily prayer in each class. Guided by the outcomes and curriculum set by the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas, study subjects include an introduction of Catholicism, Sacred Scripture, Moral Theology, the Sacraments, Catholic Social Justice, the History of the Church and Christian Lifestyles. Additionally, students model Christ through the giving of their time and talents to the community each semester by fulfilling the Catholic Outreach Community Service Program commitments.

Catholic Outreach Community Service Program

Students must give at least 80 service hours during their four years to exemplify the lifelong call to Christian service and the Mission of Saint Thomas Aquinas.

Freshman - 16 hours
 Sophomore - 16 hours
 Junior - 24 hours
 Senior - 24 hours

The service undertaken should embody the Works of Mercy and adhere to the outlined requirements available on the Service and Outreach page of the website.

The completion of the service will make up 10% of the Theology course grade each semester. Additional information can be found on our Campus Ministry pages at www.stasaints.net.

THEOLOGY

Course Number	Course Name	Possible Grade Level				Credit	Dual-Enrollment	Weighted Grade
		9	10	11	12			
080115	9A Scripture	■				0.5		
080195	9B Scripture	■				0.5		
080295	10A Church		■			0.5		
080285	10B Sacraments		■			0.5		
080225	11A Morality			■		0.5		
080435	11B Theology of the Body			■		0.5		
080465	Faith & Reason				■	0.5		
080455	Social Justice				■	0.5		
080425	Christian Lifestyles				■	0.5		
080445	World Religions				■	0.5		
080415	Philosophy of Death				■	0.5		
080450	Campus Ministry				■	0.5		

THEOLOGY

9A - SCRIPTURE SEM 1

9B - SCRIPTURE SEM 2

Credit 1

Grade 9

Course #: 080115/080195

THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST IN SCRIPTURE

The purpose of this course is to give students a general knowledge and appreciation of the Sacred Scriptures. In the course they will learn about the Bible, authored by God through Inspiration, and its value to people throughout the world. If they have not been taught this earlier, they will learn how to read the Bible and will become familiar with the major sections of the Bible and the books included in each section. Through their study of the Bible they will come to encounter the living Word of God, Jesus Christ. Every effort is made to project a sense of the unity of the narrative for the divine plan of salvation, the presence of God's action in this record of his Revelation, and his desire to share his merciful love with us.

10A CHURCH SEM 1

Credit ½

Grade 10

Course #: 080295

JESUS CHRIST'S MISSION CONTINUES IN THE CHURCH

The purpose of this course is to help the students understand that in and through the Church they encounter the Living Jesus Christ. They will be introduced to the fact that the Church was founded by Christ through the Apostles and is sustained by Him through the Holy Spirit. The students will come to know that the Church is the living Body of Christ today. This Body has both Divine and human elements. In this course, students will learn about the sacred nature of the Church. Key focuses include: the Marks of the Church (One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic) and the purpose and structure of the Church in the world, and what it means to live in the world today as a disciple of Jesus Christ.

10B SACRAMENTS SEM 2

Credit ½

Grade 10

Course #: 080285

SACRAMENTS AS PRIVILEGED ENCOUNTERS WITH JESUS CHRIST

Students learn and experience how sacraments are special signs that put us in touch with the Risen Lord. They focus on the Church community as well as the individual's role in each of the sacraments, with an emphasis on the Eucharist. Students demonstrate knowledge of the definition, history, and significance of the Sacraments and identify the Sunday liturgy as the central focus of the Church community. Recognition of the need for prayer as essential and as an expression of faith is an emphasis of this class. Students learn to distinguish the different styles of prayer by evaluating prayer in the life of Jesus, the saints, contemporary people and through preparing and creating various prayer experiences.

11A MORALITY SEM 1

Credit ½

Grade 11

Course #: 080225

LIFE IN JESUS CHRIST

Students identify the Christian values and moral principles found in Scriptures and in the Magisterium. They illustrate how these are lived in the world today. Students examine the compassionate example of Jesus' life and teachings in regard to moral dilemmas. Students are provided a method of ethical decision making which will help them continue in their formation of conscience and guide them in making moral and ethical decisions in their daily lives. Students explore the Church's teaching concerning moral issues: conscience, sin, good vs. evil, chastity, abortion, birth-control, homosexuality, capital punishment, euthanasia, drugs and alcohol, and honesty with self and others.



THEOLOGY

11B THEOLOGY OF THE BODY SEM 2

Credit ½

Grade 11

Course #: 080435

THEOLOGY OF THE BODY

The purpose of this course is based on the collection of 129 talks on human sexuality given by Pope John Paul II between September 1979 and November 1984 and is designed specifically for teens. The course will address the profound interconnection between sexuality and the Christian mystery. The course will answer questions like: Why did God give us our sexual desire? What does our sexuality teach us about God? What is the difference between love and lust and how can one overcome the temptation of lust? How does waiting for sex make marriages stronger? How can I discover my vocation?

THEOLOGY 4

Students are required to take Faith and Reason and one senior elective Theology course.

FAITH AND REASON (REQUIRED)

Credit ½

Grade 12

Course #: 080465

WHY GOD? WHY JESUS? WHY THE CATHOLIC CHURCH?

This course serves as a capstone for the three previous years of theology courses. The ten major topics covered over the course of the semester will provide every student with a deeper understanding about God, Jesus, and the Catholic Church. This Theology course is designed to help students develop a response to the questions and challenges the secular world poses to their Christian faith. This response will be based on sound principles of logic and reason, as well as personal faith. This course will engage the Catechism of the Catholic Church, Scripture, as well as encyclicals and other Church documents.

THEOLOGY 4 5 ELECTIVE OPTIONS, Seniors must choose 1

SOCIAL JUSTICE: LIVING AS A DISCIPLE OF JESUS CHRIST IN SOCIETY

Credit ½

Grade 12

Course #: 080455

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the Church's social teaching. In this course, students are to learn how Christ's concern for others, especially the poor and needy, is present today in the Church's social teaching and mission.

CHRISTIAN LIFESTYLES: LIVING AS AN ADULT CHRISTIAN

Credit ½

Grade 12

Course #: 080425

This course is designed for the student to begin to discern what the future may hold for them as a young adult Christian. In this course the student will be taking an introspective look at where they are now and explore what vocation they may be being called to in the future; the married life, single life, priestly life, or consecrated life. They will continue to seek what it means to live a life for the benefit of others and how to live that within their called vocation in service to the Christian community.

THEOLOGY

WORLD RELIGIONS: ECUMENICAL AND INTERRELIGIOUS ISSUES

Credit ½

Grade 12

Course #: 080445

The purpose of this course is to help the students understand the manner in which the Catholic Church relates to non-Catholic Christians as well as to other religions of the world. Building on the foundational truth that Jesus Christ established the Catholic Church and entrusted to her the fullness of God's Revelation, the course is intended to help students to recognize the ways in which important spiritual truths can also be found in non-Catholic Christian churches and ecclesial communities as well as in non-Christian religions. It is also intended to help them to recognize the ways in which other systems of belief and practice differ from the Catholic faith. This is the only course that meets NCAA standards.

PHILOSOPHY OF DEATH

Credit ½

Grade 12

Course #: 080415

PHILOSOPHY OF DEATH (FORMERLY DEATH AND DYING)

Most people are scared to death of death! We run from it, we get angry about it and we do our best to avoid it. Not very Jesus like. This "Philosophy of Death" course will take you on a journey from those surface reactions to infinitely deeper questions, wonderings and realities about this seemingly terrifying subject. Ultimately, this course will remind you that anywhere Jesus went is a good place to go, even to death. We will look at death itself, its nature, because if we do not know at least something of what death is, how can we meaningfully ritualize it, explain it and – finally – face it? From a field trip to a funeral home and cemetery, to guest speakers, to stories from teachers and students, and a host of other sources, we will look at why and how we – as Catholics – ritualize death. We will look at the costs associated with death and look at death from the perspective of funeral home employees, of medical professionals and of family members. Along the way, we will encounter questions involving medical ethics, customs and other cultures.

Finally, this course will offer you wisdom to make your death – when it comes – an offering of faith, hope and love to God and your loved ones. You will leave this course with the truth that your death is your last act, your last chance to point people to Jesus. Why would you cheat anyone out of that?

CAMPUS MINISTRY

Credit: ½

Grade 12

Course #: 080450

The Campus Ministry course is an elective that allows students a first-hand experience at living out the Gospel message by ministering to the Saint Thomas Aquinas High School community. At its core, the class emphasizes individual and small group spiritual development by making use of class retreats, planning all school liturgies, and para-liturgies. The goal of the class is to put faith into practice. Students enrolled in the course must be comfortable sharing their faith in a variety of ways. Students will be expected to pray and journal daily and witness their faith to their peers and teachers. Students will be expected to lead small groups and Bible studies during STA period. Campus Ministers should be practicing their faith on a regular basis.



ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

H = Honors Course

CC = College Credit

KR = Not included in the Qualified Admissions Approved Curriculum for KS Regents Universities

The mission of the 9-12 Language Arts Department is to continue the development of skills relating to thinking, reading, writing, speaking and listening: the foundation of all human interaction. Language Arts outcomes should be integrated in all disciplines and should reflect Catholic teachings and Christian values.

Course Outcomes:

THINKING

The student will demonstrate skills for accessing, processing, analyzing, synthesizing, and evaluating data effectively.

READING

The student will demonstrate skills needed to read and the knowledge to respond to literature.

WRITING

The student will write effectively for a variety of purposes and audiences.

SPEAKING

The student will demonstrate effective oral communication skills.

LISTENING

The student will demonstrate effective listening skills.

Language Arts Honors Classes

Placement test scores are the main criteria for determining which students will enroll in Honors English 1. The prerequisite for all other Honors/AP English classes is a grade of at least 86% (without the extra 5 honors points) in the previous honors class or at least 95% in a regular English class. These grades are reliable indicators of students' success in the next level course.

In the Honors program, students have an increased reading load over students in non-honors courses. The students' writing is geared toward the Advanced Placement exams that are taken at the end of the junior year, and for college credit(s) during their senior year. In Honors classes, students are introduced to a greater range of vocabulary as well as provided the opportunity for more independent thinking activities and self-designed projects. In addition to exercising advanced thinking and composition skills, completing all assigned work on time is mandatory. All Honors English students are required to complete the summer reading assignments. Summer reading assessments are the first grades of each new school year.



ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Course Number	Course Name	Possible Grade Level				Credit	Dual-Enrollment	Weighted Grade
		9	10	11	12			
030111	English 1	■				1.0		
030206	Honors English 1	■				1.0		■
030211	English 2		■			1.0		
030201	Honors English 2		■			1.0		■
030311	English 3			■		1.0		
030600	AP English Language & Composition			■		1.0		■
030411	English 4				■	1.0		
030401	Honors English 4/College Composition				■	1.0	■	■
030610	AP English Literature & Composition				■	1.0		■
030325	Film as Literature				■	0.5		
030302	Creative Writing		■	■	■	0.5		
030175	Journalism/Mass Communications		■	■	■	0.5		
030115	Speech	■	■	■	■	0.5		
030166	Honors Forensics - Competitive	■	■	■	■	0.5		■
030145	Forensics Non-Competitive	■	■	■	■	0.5		

ENGLISH 1

Credit 1 Grade 9

Course #: 030111

*Students should expect to have a summer reading/writing assignment.

English 1 introduces students to the basic genres: short story, poetry, novel, non-fiction, and drama. The course emphasizes and teaches grammar in the context of writing and includes a concentrated grammar unit based on drills, repetition, and use. Students direct their writing focus on the mastery of the basic essay format. In addition to writing multiple essays, students study a minimum of three major works during the year and begin their programmed study of vocabulary.

HONORS ENGLISH 1

H

Credit: 1 Grade 9

Course #: 030206

*Students should expect to have a summer reading/writing assignment.

Prerequisite: Placement Exam Score Students

Honors English 1 introduces students to the basic genres: short story, poetry, novel, non-fiction, and drama. Students enrolling in Honors English 1 study a minimum of five major works during the year, begin their programmed study of vocabulary, direct their writing focus on the essay format and write multiple essays, and practice analytical reading and writing skills. Honors English 1 emphasizes and teaches grammar in the context of writing and includes a concentrated grammar unit.

ENGLISH 2

Credit: 1 Grade 10

Course #: 030211

*Students should expect to have a summer reading/writing assignment.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of English 1.

English 2 is a survey course, focusing on the elements that have built literature throughout time and sampling classic literature such as mythology, Greek tragedy, and epic poetry. English 2 also strengthens students' writing; students will compose a minimum of five multi-paragraph writings, both formal and informal, and will create a portfolio to show the progression of their writing skills. The course curriculum also includes a research project and the continuation of vocabulary and grammar / structure study.



ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

HONORS ENGLISH 2

H

Credit: 1

Grade 10

Course #: 030201

*Students should expect to have a summer reading/writing assignment.

Prerequisite: At least 86% (without the extra 5 points) in Honors English 1 or at least 95% in English 1.

Honors English 2 focuses on the elements that have built literature throughout time, and samples classic literature such as mythology, Greek tragedy, and epic poetry. Students taking Honors English 2 analyze a number of literary selections, including four major works, and focus on critical thinking and analysis of theme, symbolism, and allegory. Students enrolling in Honors English 2 are expected to read quickly and thoroughly, have strong inference skills, and make subtle connections. Honors English 2 also strengthens students' writing. Students will compose a minimum of eight multi-paragraph writings, both formal and informal, that include autonomous thinking, literary analysis, and critical persuasion. The course curriculum also includes a research project, introduction to Advanced Placement prep, and the continuation of vocabulary and grammar / structure study.

ENGLISH 3

Credit: 1

Grade 11

Course #: 030311

*Students should expect to have a summer reading/writing assignment.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of English 2.

English 3 holds students accountable for those literary elements and rules of mechanics previously taught, while adding elements of style through the use of rhetorical devices. Additionally, students will increase their knowledge and understanding of American authors by reading and analyzing essays, plays, novels, and other genres. Students compose a number of multi-paragraph writings -- informal and formal, both in-class and out-of-class -- over the course of the year. Students base formal essays, including a required research paper, on their readings from Colonial to contemporary American literature. Students study three major works during the year and continue the study of vocabulary, grammar, and structure.

AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION*

H

Credit: 1

Grade 11

Course #: 030600

*Students should expect to have a summer reading/writing assignment.

Prerequisite: At least 86% (without the extra 5 points) in Honors English 2 or at least 95% in English 2.

Students enrolling in AP English Language and Composition are expected to be proficient in writing and supporting arguments and must be able to recognize and analyze the use of literary devices studied in English 2. This course will incorporate the study of style, both with reading and writing assignments, and will develop students' ability to argue, persuade, and synthesize sources in their writings. Students enrolling in AP English Language are also expected to read quickly and thoroughly, have strong inference skills, and make subtle connections. The course serves as a survey of American Literature, from the Colonial to the contemporary, and samples all genres. Literature study emphasizes analysis, with students using newly-introduced analytical techniques as well as incorporating those used in earlier courses. Students will study two major works of literature each semester in addition to completing two outside reading assignments. AP English Language and Composition prepares students for the English Language and Composition Advanced Placement Exam.

**AP Exam Required*

ENGLISH 4

Credit: 1

Grade 12

Course #: 030411

*Students should expect to have a summer reading/writing assignment.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of English 3.

English 4 increases students' knowledge and understanding of British authors and their writings, from Beowulf to contemporary classics. Students will study four major works in class and complete six out-of-class reading assignments. They also will write multiple essays during the year, including a college, scholarship, or career essay and two research papers. While building on prior writing and research skills, the research units will help students become proficient in using online databases, incorporating ideas from outside sources, providing parenthetical citations, synthesizing sources, and building an annotated bibliography. Students will continue their programmed study of vocabulary and the study of grammar / structure in the context of writing.



ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

HONORS ENGLISH 4/ COLLEGE COMP H,CC

Credit: 1 (College credit available) Grade 12
Course #: 030401 JCCC ENGL 121 and/or 122
*Students should expect to have a summer reading/writing assignment.
Prerequisite: At least 86% (without the extra 5 points) in AP English Language or at least 95% in English 3.
Course Fee: Current tuition at JCCC is assessed if college credit is desired.

Honors English 4/College Comp is a chronological survey of English literature with an in-depth study of major works by English authors. Students read and study at least two major works each semester. Composition familiarizes the students with both the theory and process of developing effective writing skills. Students complete multiple essays, including two fully developed research papers, during the year. Students continue their study of vocabulary and grammar in the context of their writing.

NOTE: Students may earn college credit for the Honors English 4/College Comp course through Johnson County Community College. They must, however, enroll and pay the current rate per credit hour to JCCC.

AP ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION H

Credit: 1 Grade 12
Course #: 030610
*Students should expect to have a summer reading/writing assignment.
Prerequisite: None. Students should be very strong readers and writers.

The AP English Literature and Composition course focuses on reading, analyzing, and writing about imaginative literature (fiction, poetry, drama) from various periods. Students engage in close reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature to deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style, and themes, as well as its use of figurative language, imagery, and symbolism. Writing assignments include expository, analytical, and argumentative essays that require students to analyze and interpret literary works.

College credit may be earned for students who choose to take the AP test in May.

FILM AS LITERATURE KR

Credit ½ Grade 12
Course #: 030325
*Students should expect to have a summer reading/writing assignment.
Prerequisite: None.

This elective course focuses on studying film as a literary form. The study involves viewing various films from five themed units, then discussing, interpreting, and writing responses to those films. Film as Literature covers aspects of American cinema from the silent film era to twenty-first century movies. Students who take this course will write essays and complete several unit projects.

CREATIVE WRITING (SUSPENSE FICTION)

Credit: ½ Grades 10-12
Course #: 030302
Prerequisite: English 1

Creative Writing in Suspense Fiction introduces students to creative writing using suspense fiction in novels, short stories, and poetry. The course includes: an introduction to the elements of suspense, writing using standard plot in literature, analyzing and critiquing different works of fiction, discussion groups, and stylistic writing techniques that encourage a process approach with group editing sessions. Students will submit their unpublished, original works to at least two contests to showcase the writing talent Saint Thomas Aquinas students possess.

JOURNALISM/ MASS COMMUNICATIONS

Credit: ½ Grades 10-12
Course #: 030175
Prerequisite: at least an 80% in English I

In this elective, students will concentrate on gathering, reporting, and editing news. To help facilitate the learning process, students will examine the work of professional journalists and analyze the way their work shapes an audience's understanding and experience of the world. Students will also learn the various forms of journalism and how to apply these forms to different media formats. Further areas of study include mass media law, ethics, and history. Finally, students will build and sharpen their writing skills.



ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

SPEECH

Credit: ½

Grades 9-12

Course #: 030115

Prerequisite: None

The ability to communicate depends on one's ability to verbalize; thus, by preparing and delivering basic speeches, students acquire speech awareness, technique, and confidence. This course introduces the basics of speech communication through preparation, organization, imagination, and presentation. This class or a designated equivalent is required for graduation.

NOTE: Speech is also available in summer school.

FORENSICS - NON-COMPETITIVE

Credit: ½ each semester

Grades 9-12

Course #: 030145

This beginning course is designed for students interested in exploring forensics during the school day. Students will be instructed in all facets of individual forensics events including oral interpretation, humorous/dramatic solo acting, informative speaking, persuasive speaking, impromptu speaking, and duet acting. This course will serve as a general introduction to competitive speaking and acting.

NOTE: Forensics non-competitive fulfills the speech requirement for graduation.

HONORS FORENSICS - COMPETITIVE

Credit: ½ Semester 2 only

Grades 9-12

Course #: 030166

Prerequisite: None

Forensics involves the creation of student acting and/or speaking performances for contest performance. Some memorization will be required. The course requirements include an expectation that students will contract to attend several inter-school speech competitions, which are held primarily on Saturdays. The schedule is flexible, but students without at least two free weekends from early February to mid-April should not enroll. This class may be repeated and students may earn a varsity letter in this activity.

NOTE: Honors Competitive Forensics fulfills the speech requirement for graduation, but students and their families should anticipate a higher level of rigor and expectations relative to the standard speech class.



FINE ARTS

Z = Zero Hour

H = Honors Course

CC = College Credit

KR = Not included in the Qualified Admissions Approved Curriculum for KS Regents Universities

Students participating in the Fine Arts Department learn and demonstrate basic skills and appreciation of visual art, theater and music performance. As they advance, the students apply these basic skills to create and evaluate artistic works for the beauty of human expression and self-fulfillment. In addition, students exhibit respect for human and spiritual values and develop self-esteem, which enhances growth as contributing members of their Faith community.

Saint Thomas Aquinas High School requires one credit of Fine Arts; many students choose additional classes as electives. Most fine arts classes are open to students in grades 9 – 12. Show Choir and Jazz Band are offered during Zero Hour to provide more scheduling flexibility. The fine art requirement may be met by selecting from a wide variety of courses in:

- Visual art
- Vocal music
- Instrumental music
- Theater classes.

PERFORMING ARTS DRAMA AND THEATER

INTRODUCTION TO THEATER

Credit: ½

Grades 9 - 12

Course #: 003165

Prerequisite: None

Through hands-on experience, students will actively contribute to the production of the school musicals and plays, assisting with costumes, props, scenery, and publicity. In addition, students will explore various aspects of theatre, including acting, directing, playwriting, and video creation. Designed as an orientation to the dramatic arts, this course allows students to discover and develop their interests in different areas of theatre.

ACTING 1

Credit: ½

Grades 9 – 12

Course #: 003275

Prerequisite: None

Through acting exercises, theatre games, and in-class performances, students will develop the skills necessary to create fully realized, believable characters. The course also includes a focus on acting for the camera. Students will study notable actors and scripts, create original comedies and dramas, and perform duet and solo scenes. Additional topics include improvisational comedy, pantomime, and audition techniques.

ADVANCED DRAMA

Credit: ½

Grades 10 - 12

Course #: 003295

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Introduction to Theatre, Acting I or teacher permission.

In this course, students will build on the skills developed in Acting I and Introduction to Theatre by rehearsing and performing a diverse selection of scenes and plays. They will explore scripts from a variety of styles, genres, and time periods. The class will also take part in several public performances, culminating in the hosting of the annual end-of-year Theatre Awards Banquet.



FINE ARTS

	Course Number	Course Name	Possible Grade Level				Credit	Dual-Enrollment	Weighted Grade
			9	10	11	12			
Performing Arts	003165	Introduction to Theater	■	■	■	■	0.5		
	003275	Acting 1	■	■	■	■	0.5		
	003295	Advanced Drama		■	■	■	0.5		
	003231	Stagecraft (application request)	■	■	■	■	1.0		
	003232	Advanced Stagecraft (application request)		■	■	■	1.0		
	003121	Concert Choir	■	■	■	■	1.0		
	003122	Chamber Choir (Zero hour)	■	■	■	■	1.0		
	003151	Show Choir <i>Swingin' Saints</i>	■	■	■	■	1.0		
	003152	Girls Show Choir <i>Saintsations</i>	■	■	■	■	1.0		
	003283	Band/Drumline	■	■	■	■	1.0		
	003223	Show Choir Band	■	■	■	■	0.5		
Fine Arts	001116	Art Fundamentals	■	■	■	■	0.5		
	001125	Drawing 1		■	■	■	0.5		
	001135	Painting 1		■	■	■	0.5		
	001215	Ceramics and Sculpture Art Design 1		■	■	■	0.5		
	001315	Advanced Ceramics and Sculpture Art Design 2			■	■	0.5		
	001235	Advanced Drawing & Painting 2			■	■	0.5		
	001415	Senior Art				■	0.5		
	001005	Photography	■	■	■	■	0.5		
Practical Arts	001335	Graphic Design		■	■	■	0.5		
	020311	Drafting	■	■	■	■	1.0		
	020325	Principles of Applied Engineering 1		■	■	■	0.5 or 1.0		
	020330	Principles of Applied Engineering 2			■	■	0.5 or 1.0		
	010335	Interior Design		■	■	■	0.5		

STAGECRAFT

Credit: 1

Grades 9 – 12

Course #: 003231

Prerequisite: Application and Instructor Approval

Stagecraft provides students an opportunity to design and build sets for all Saint Thomas Aquinas productions. This will include, but not limited to, the Fall Musical, Winter Play and Dinner Theater.

ADVANCED STAGECRAFT

Credit: 1

Grades 10 – 12

Course #: 003232

Prerequisite: Enrolled in Stagecraft for at least one semester and Instructor Approval

Stagecraft provides students an opportunity to design and build sets, set up and run sound and lighting plots, and be responsible for all performance needs of the drama and music departments. Students will need to be available for outside of school day rehearsals and performances. Students may be called upon to assist others in the use of the theater or other performance facilities when needed.



FINE ARTS

MUSIC

CONCERT CHOIR

Credit: 1

Grades 9 - 12

Course #: 003121

Prerequisite: None

In this SATB choir, students will learn how to sing - as well as diction, sight-singing, music theory, vocal health and choral techniques. Concert Choir will sing at STA masses throughout the school year, and has several concerts/performances throughout the year including Fall Concert, Open House, Christmas Concert, KMEA, and Small/Large Group KSHSAA Ensemble. Students in Concert Choir also have the opportunity to sing/perform in our Christmas Coffeehouse in December and Dinner Theater in the spring. Open to all students, grades 9-12.

CHAMBER CHOIR

Z

Credit: 1

Grades 9-12

Course #: 003122

Prerequisite: Audition/Instructor Approval

Students will learn proper fundamentals of singing while having the opportunity to learn and perform varied types of higher level choral music. Chamber Choir sings often for STA events, local parishes, masses at STA and other local events throughout the school year. Singers in Chamber Choir learn diction, pronunciation of different languages, music theory, sight singing, IPA (international phonetic alphabet) and ear training. Chamber Choir students audition for KMEA and represent STA at the Spring Small/Large Group KSHSAA Ensemble. Students in Chamber Choir also have the opportunity to sing/perform in our Christmas Coffeehouse in December and Dinner Theater in the spring. Open to all students, grades 10-12, with audition. To schedule the audition, contact director of choral studies, Catherine Boone: cboone@stasaints.net

SHOW CHOIR (SWINGIN' SAINTS)

Credit: 1

Grades 9 – 12

Course #: 003151

Prerequisite: Audition/Instructor Approval. Students enrolled in Swingin' Saints should be concurrently enrolled in the Chamber Choir Zero Hour class.

Swingin' Saints is the only mixed competitive show choir in a Catholic High School in the Archdiocese of Johnson/Wyandotte County. Students in this show choir will study and perform: pop and show choir music with choreography, standard high school choral literature, music theory, sight singing, IPA (international phonetic alphabet) and ear training. "Swingin' Saints" performs annually at Extravaganza in November, and they participate in Open House, masses at STA, Show Choir Competitions, Dinner Theater and various other performances throughout the year. Singers in Swingin' Saints also have the opportunity to sing/perform at the Christmas Coffeehouse in December. Show Choir competition season is January 2025 - March 2025. In 2025, the show choir will travel to perform at a national event. Open to all students grades 9-12 by audition only. Audition arranged by emailing director of choral studies: Catherine Boone cboone@stasaints.net.

GIRLS SHOW CHOIR (SAINTSATIONS)

Credit: 1

Grades 9-12

Course #: 003152

Prerequisite: Audition/Instructor Approval

Saintsations is the only all female competitive show choir in a Catholic High School in the Archdiocese of Johnson/Wyandotte County. In 2025, the show choir will travel to perform at a national event. Students in this show choir class will study and perform various forms of music - pop and show choir music with Choreography, art songs, classical, and acappella. Students will participate in the Fall Concert, STA Open House, Christmas Concert, masses at STA, Show Choir Competitions, as well as KSHSAA, and various other performances throughout the year. Singers in Saintsations also have the opportunity to sing/perform at the Christmas Coffeehouse in December and Dinner Theater in the spring. Show Choir competition season is January 2025 - March 2025. Open to all female students grades 9-12 by audition only. Audition arranged by emailing director of choral studies: Catherine Boone - cboone@stasaints.net



FINE ARTS

BAND/DRUMLINE

Credit: 1

Grades 9-12

Course #: 003283

Prerequisite: Prior experience in band ; instructor approval if no prior experience.

Students enrolled in band/drumline will get to play at all home varsity football and basketball games, and at selected pep assemblies throughout the year. They will also perform three concerts (Fall, Christmas, and Spring). Students enrolled in band/drumline are eligible to participate in the KMEA honor band auditions in November, the KSHSAA regional and state piano festivals in February, and the KSHSAA regional and state solo/small ensemble festivals in April. Enrollment is open to all students grades 9-12. Full-year enrollment preferred, but not required. Please email Mr. Burgess (jburgess@stasaints.net) for more information.

SHOW CHOIR BAND

Z

Credit: ½

Grades 9-12

Course #: 003223 (Sem 1)

Prerequisite: Must have 2+ years prior band experience on current instrument.

Students enrolling in show choir band are committing themselves to perform with the Swingin' Saints and Saintsations show choirs at their competitions, usually four to five in number, which occur on select Saturdays during January/February/March. The show choir band accompanies Saint Thomas Aquinas' two competitive show choirs, Swingin' Saints and Saintsations, during their competition season. The show choir competition season runs during the months of January, February and March. Show Choir Band class meets only during the first semester. During the first semester, we will learn all the music for each show choir set. In January, there will be a "Preview Week", during which there will be three evening rehearsals and a performance. After preview week, they will perform at four to five show choir competitions. The competitions are always held on a Saturday. Students enrolled in show choir band are eligible to participate in the KMEA honor band auditions in November, the KSHSAA regional and state piano festivals in February, and the KSHSAA regional and state solo/small ensemble festivals in April. Enrollment is open to all students grades 9-12. Please email Mr. Burgess (jburgess@stasaints.net) for more information.

VISUAL ARTS

ART FUNDAMENTALS

Credit: ½

Grades 9-12

Course #: 001116

Prerequisite: None

Foundations in Art is a prerequisite for all other art courses except Senior Art. This course provides the student with a foundation in fundamental art skills, aesthetics, color theory and composition. Drawing, painting, and ceramic projects are presented and supplemented with a variety of 2D and 3D projects.

DRAWING 1

Credit: ½

Grades 10-12

Course #: 001125

Prerequisite: Art Fundamentals

This course is designed to build on the drawing fundamentals experienced in Foundations in Art. The students will explore various techniques and dry medias such as pencil, colored pencil, chalk pastel and oil pastel.

PAINTING 1

Credit: ½

Grades 10-12

Course #: 001135

Prerequisite: Art Fundamentals

This course emphasizes the principles and elements of art through painting. Students gain experience with wet medias such as acrylic paint and oil paint.

CERAMICS AND SCULPTURE ART DESIGN 1

Credit: ½

Grades 10-12

Course #: 001215

Prerequisites: Art Fundamentals

This course is a continuation and refinement of the 3-D principles and techniques experienced in Foundations in Art. The course includes the exploration of various hand-building techniques with clay, several molding materials, and the creation of a variety of sculptural and ornamental forms.



FINE ARTS

ADVANCED CERAMICS AND SCULPTURE ART DESIGN 2

Credit: ½ Grades 11-12
Course #: 001315
Prerequisites: Art Fundamentals, Ceramics and Sculpture Art Design 1

This course helps students refine their ceramic skills in hand building and surface decoration with clay and a variety of molding materials. This course will also introduce the student to the potter's wheel and advanced sculptural and aesthetic ornamental techniques.

ADVANCED DRAWING AND PAINTING 2

Credit: ½ Grades 11 - 12
Course #: 001235
Prerequisite: Art Fundamentals, Drawing 1 and Painting 1

This course offers an advanced curriculum for students who would like more experience with drawing and painting. Students work with dry, wet and mixed media.

SENIOR ART

Credit: ½ Grade 12
Course #: 001415
Prerequisite: None

This course is designed for the inexperienced artist interested in the enjoyment of several art forms such as clay, printmaking, and a variety of other art projects at the beginner level.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Credit: ½ Grades 9-12
Course #: 001005
Prerequisite: None

This course will be an additional entry level elective in either the graphic design or art pathway (or both). In addition, it will provide basic scaffolding for School Publications class (Yearbook) in terms of learning how to take a good photo, setting up live shots, basic editing in Adobe Photoshop as well as ad layout in Adobe InDesign. Additionally, content will cover the history of photography, influence of famous photographers and careers, how to use a digital SLR camera, lenses, filters, lighting and exposure. Iphone photography will also be studied as part of the curriculum. Students will produce a digital portfolio and will have a display of their work at the end of the semester.

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Credit: ½ Grades 10-12
Course #: 001335
Prerequisite: None

This is an introductory class to digital art and graphic design with the use of technology to create artistic images, image manipulation, digital photography, graphic design, visual literacy, and the elements and principles of design in compositions. Art history and the evolution of technology incorporated into the arts will also be studied.

DRAFTING

Credit: 1 Grades 9-12
Course #: 020311
Prerequisite: None

This course is designed to introduce the fundamentals of drafting and design. Students will experience a variety of technical drawings to include Multiview Projections, Auxiliary Views, Object Shadowing, Isometric, Oblique and Perspective Drawings.

AutoCAD and 3D printing will be introduced. Students will individually compete in the KSPE Model Bridge Building Contest. Students are required to purchase special drafting equipment (approximately \$30). This course fulfills the fine arts credit needed for STA graduation.

FINE ARTS

PRINCIPLES OF APPLIED ENGINEERING 1

Credit: ½ credit for one semester only or 1 credit for year-long
Grades 10-12

Course #: 020325

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 1

This course will lay a foundation for understanding innovative and creative design processes. Students will problem solve to design, build, and 3D print working models using multiple CAD programs such as Fusion 360, AutoCAD, TinkerCAD and SketchUp, as well as other programs and applications as appropriate. Students will be expected to compete in area engineering competitions. Additional fees will be required and will vary depending on the students' choice in projects.

PRINCIPLES OF APPLIED ENGINEERING 2

Credit ½ credit for one semester only or 1 credit for year-long
Grades 11-12

Course #: 020330

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Engineering 1

Engineering II course continues to expand the skills, knowledge and teamwork skills using various CAD programs that were introduced in our Engineering I class. Students will be expected to participate in area Engineering competitions, designing and creating working models with 3D printers and our laser cutter. Students will have the opportunity to choose projects based on their person interest/field of study in engineering.

Additional fees will be required and will vary depending on the student's choice of projects.

INTERIOR DESIGN

Credit: ½ Grades 10-12

Course #: 010335

Prerequisite: None

This course covers design topics including roof types and exterior architectural styles, floor plans and furniture arrangements, space and design of specific rooms, elements and principles of design, color, accessories, lighting, background treatments, and career information. Hands-on activities and experiences are emphasized. This course fulfills one half credit of the fine art requirement for graduation. Interior Design is taught in the Family and Consumer Science Department.

NOTE: Interior Design will not meet the University of Missouri fine art requirement for admission.



WORLD LANGUAGES

H = Honors Course

CC = College Credit

KR = While the study of foreign languages is certainly recommended, NO Classes in the World Language Department are required as part of the Qualified Admissions Approved Curriculum for KS Regents Universities; however, two years of the same foreign language is part of the Kansas Scholars Curriculum.

Saint Thomas Aquinas students in the class of 2028 and beyond are required to take two consecutive years of the same language during their high school careers beginning their freshman year. Students in the class of 2026 and 2027 must complete 2 years of the same language. This gives them the option of continuing with a third and fourth year of language study.

Students who already speak one of the foreign languages offered at Saint Thomas Aquinas at home are strongly urged to begin the study of a DIFFERENT language. The rationale for the foreign language requirement is to broaden the students' horizons, both academically and culturally. Studying a language that is new to them exposes students to a new culture, new customs and new opportunities. Should the student elect not to begin a language new to him/her, the student MUST take a placement test in the language they hope to study. For these students, the lowest level they may enter is level 2 (Spanish 2, French 2 or German 2), although the results of the test may indicate starting in a higher-level class.

If a student has successfully completed the first year of a modern language before entering 9th grade at Saint Thomas Aquinas and plans to enroll in the second year as a 9th grader, he/she MUST take a language placement exam. These exams are given in the spring. When the student fills out his/her choice for a language class, he/she must remember that it is a tentative selection pending the results of the language placement exam. Again, all students entering Saint Thomas Aquinas with prior foreign language experience who plan to continue in that language MUST take a placement test. Those students who qualify academically may enroll in honors classes for Spanish 3,4, and 5, which are available for college credit through Johnson County Community College.

For those students who complete the highest level of French, German or Spanish taught at Saint Thomas Aquinas, the foreign language requirement is deemed complete.

World Language Honors Courses

Saint Thomas Aquinas currently offers the following language honors classes: French 3 and 4, German 3 and 4, and Spanish 2, 3, 4 and 5. The prerequisite for foreign language honors courses is a minimum grade of 86% (without the extra 5 honors points) in the previous honors class OR a minimum grade of 94% in a regular English class. These grades are reliable indicators of students' success in the next course. Incoming students who want to enroll in Honors Spanish 2 or higher MUST take a placement test to ensure that they are prepared for the demands of the course. Students in honors courses will be evaluated and moved to a lower class if needed within the first month of the new school year.

Travel Opportunities

Opportunities exist for STA students to spend time in countries where the language they are learning is spoken. These opportunities are subject to change as conditions dictate and may consist of an exchange with a school or a tour of the country where the language is spoken. For the most up-to-date information, speak to the corresponding teacher or the department chair.



WORLD LANGUAGES

Course Number	Course Name	Possible Grade Level				Credit	Dual-Enrollment	Weighted Grade
		9	10	11	12			
004121	French 1	■	■	■	■	1.0		
004211	French 2	■	■	■	■	1.0		
004301	Honors French 3		■	■	■	1.0		■
004401	Honors French 4			■	■	1.0		■
005111	German 1	■	■	■	■	1.0		
005211	German 2	■	■	■	■	1.0		
005301	Honors German 3		■	■	■	1.0		■
005401	Honors German 4			■	■	1.0		■
006121	Latin 1	■	■	■	■	1.0		
006131	Latin 2		■	■	■	1.0		
006311	Latin 3			■	■	1.0		
007121	Spanish 1	■	■	■	■	1.0		
007211	Spanish 2	■	■	■	■	1.0		
007201	Honors Spanish 2	■	■	■	■	1.0		■
007311	Spanish 3		■	■	■	1.0		
007301	Honors Spanish 3	■	■	■	■	1.0	■	■
007401	Honors Spanish 4		■	■	■	1.0	■	■
007501	Honors Spanish 5		■	■	■	1.0	■	■

LATIN 1

Credit: 1

Grades 9-12

Course #: 006121

Prerequisite: None

This course will introduce the student to Latin, the ancient language of the Romans. It will begin with a review of English grammar to ensure that necessary terminology is understood. This will build a foundation of grammar and vocabulary skills to help increase fluency and language proficiency. The student will learn how Latin has affected and evolved into the modern languages. The knowledge of Roman culture gained from Latin will equip the student to appreciate and understand the culture of Western civilization and the world we live in. The course will also teach the student to appreciate the rich history and role that Latin has played in the Catholic church.

LATIN 2

Credit: 1

Grades 10-12

Course #: 006131

Prerequisite: Latin 1

Latin 2 will continue the study of Latin vocabulary and grammar begun in Latin 1 through ancient, time-honored, classical language approaches which include repetition, parsing, written composition, and listening exercises. . After a review of basic Latin forms and grammar, Latin 2 will continue development of the student's reading skills using more advanced grammatical constructions. The student will deepen his/her exploration of Roman culture and civilization, with an emphasis on the Roman republic.



WORLD LANGUAGES

LATIN 3

Credit: 1 Grades 11-12
Course #: 006311
Prerequisite: Latin 2

Latin 3 will build on the foundations laid by the first and second courses of study, aiming toward greater use and understanding of the Latin language. After a review of the vocabulary and concepts from Latin 2, students will explore advanced forms of expression in authentic Latin texts. Through the study of participles and the subjunctive mood, students will be able to express themselves with increasing sophistication. Students will use these skills to learn more about the language and culture of the Romans, the Church, and Western Civilization.

GERMAN 1

Credit: 1 Grades 9-12
Course #: 005111
Prerequisite: None

Students are introduced to the language, culture, geography, history, and current events of the Germanic countries. Students learn the basic grammatical structures and vocabulary. They have the opportunity to practice their skills in oral, written, and reading exercises. German customs will be studied as well as the relationship between German and English. German 2 will be the next course students select after the successful completion of German 1.

GERMAN 2

Credit: 1 Grades 9-12
Course #: 005211
Prerequisite: Successful completion of German 1

German 2 students will continue to study grammatical structures. They will expand their vocabulary and work more seriously on their writing and speaking skills. German culture, history, and current events will continue to be an important part of the course. Fairy tales will be read and discussed. Students will be provided with many opportunities to improve their conversational skills.

HONORS GERMAN 3

H

Credit: 1 Grades 10-12
Course #: 005301
Prerequisite: 88% or teacher recommendation

Students in German 3 are introduced to poems, short stories, and stories from a variety of German authors. Students will have the opportunity to research a trip to a Germanic country and continue to develop their fluency in speaking, reading, and writing German. This course will include a comprehensive study of grammar, vocabulary, government, history and culture.

HONORS GERMAN 4

H

Credit: 1 Grades 11-12
Course #: 005401
Prerequisite: 88% or teacher recommendation

German 4 students will review grammar, learn the passive voice, and past tense subjunctive. They will have the opportunity to improve their conversational, reading, writing, and listening skills through the study of photomontages and German post-World War II literature and creative writings.

FRENCH 1

Credit: 1 Grades 9-12
Course #: 004121
Prerequisite: None

French 1 introduces students to the language and to the cultures of French-speaking regions throughout the world. Students develop elementary proficiency in the four language skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Readings, activities and projects increase language learning as well as knowledge of culture and customs. Catholic holidays provide an opportunity to enhance student's vocabulary, enjoyment and spiritual direction.

FRENCH 2

Credit: 1 Grades 9-12
Course #: 004211
Prerequisite: Successful completion of French 1

French 2 helps students further develop language proficiency in French, concentrating on listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Students continue their study of the cultures of francophone countries throughout the world, through readings, projects and classroom activities. Conversation is emphasized in the classroom. Catholic holidays enhance linguistic and spiritual goals.

WORLD LANGUAGES

HONORS FRENCH 3

H

Credit: 1

Grades 10-12

Course #: 004301

Prerequisite: 88% or Teacher recommendation

Honors French 3 aims to increase students' ability to communicate and to develop confidence in his/her self-expression in French. Language skills are emphasized and students are expected to express themselves in French during class. This course will include a comprehensive study of grammar, vocabulary, geography, and history. Supplementary literature and other activities are incorporated to enhance linguistic and spiritual goals.

HONORS FRENCH 4

H

Credit: 1

Grades 11-12

Course #: 004401

Prerequisite: 88% in Honors French III or Teacher recommendation

Honors French 4 aims to refine the language skills that the students have already acquired. Grammar, composition, vocabulary development, and cultural appreciation are highlighted while studying French literature, history, and engaging in activities requiring higher-level thinking skills. French is the primary language spoken in class.

SPANISH 1

Credit: 1

Grades 9-12

Course #: 007121

Prerequisite: None

Spanish 1 is a course designed to enable the beginning Spanish student to attain an elementary degree of proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The cultures and customs of Spanish-speaking countries are studied through readings and classroom activities and projects.

SPANISH 2

Credit: 1

Grades 9-12

Course #: 007211

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish 1

Spanish 2 is designed to strengthen the four skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Vocabulary, verb conjugations, verb tenses, and other grammatical concepts are reinforced through various learning activities and games. Students study grammar rules and verb tenses in greater depth than in Spanish 1. The cultures and customs of Spanish-speaking countries are studied.

HONORS SPANISH 2

H

Credit: 1

Grades 9-12

Course #: 007201

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation and 94% or above in Spanish 1 or successful completion of placement exam for Honors Spanish 2

Honors Spanish 2 is designed to challenge the student who is proficient in Spanish or who intends to continue his/her language studies in Spanish 3 and 4. The same curriculum as in Spanish 2 is taught but in greater depth and at a faster pace. Students who are planning the four-year progression of Spanish should seriously consider Honors Spanish 2.

SPANISH 3

Credit: 1

Grades 9-12

Course #: 007311

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish 2 & teacher recommendation

Spanish 3 continues the study of grammar structures and vocabulary of the language. Reading, writing, and conversation in Spanish are emphasized. Use of the language in the classroom is expected and the study of the cultures of the Spanish-speaking world is continued.

HONORS SPANISH 3

H, CC

Credit: 1 (College Credit Available)

Grades 9-12

Course #: 007301 JCCC FL 130

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation, 94% or above in Spanish 2 or successful completion of placement exam for Honors Spanish 3

Course Fee: Current tuition at JCCC is assessed if college credit is desired.

Honors Spanish 3 continues the study of grammar structures and vocabulary of the Spanish language. Reading and writing in the language are emphasized. Creating in the language is encouraged through skits, original writings, plays, speeches, and other projects. Students are expected to express themselves in Spanish during class. College credit is available for those students who register through JCCC and pay the cost per credit hour.



WORLD LANGUAGES

HONORS SPANISH 4

H, CC

Credit: 1 (College Credit Available)

Grades 10-12

Course #: 007401 JCCC FL 131

Prerequisite: Grade of 86% in Honors Spanish 3 OR 94% in Spanish 3

Course Fee: Current tuition at JCCC is assessed if college credit is desired.

This course is a continuation of the study of the grammatical aspects of the Spanish language, and entails involving further study of the cultural and geographical makeup of the Spanish-speaking world. The course begins with a grammar review and vocabulary building and proceeds to a study of Spanish literature and history through readings, compositions, and presentations. Students are expected to express themselves in Spanish during class. College credit is available for those students who register through JCCC and pay the cost per credit hour.

HONORS SPANISH 5

H, CC

Credit: 1 (College Credit Available)

Grades 10-12

Course #: 007501 JCCC FL 230

Prerequisite: Grade of 86% in Honors Spanish 4

Course Fee: Current tuition at JCCC is assessed if college credit is desired.

This course includes a review of grammar as well as further study of the cultures of Spanish-speaking countries. The students study works of literature from Spain and Latin America, including short stories, poetry, drama, and short novels. Compositions on related topics are included. Students write original works in Spanish. Students are expected to express themselves in Spanish during class. College credit is available for those students who register through JCCC and pay the cost per credit hour.



MATHEMATICS

H = Honors Course

CC = College Credit

KR = Not included in the Qualified Admissions Approved Curriculum for KS Regents Universities. Remember the Kansas Scholars Curriculum requires four years of math.

Saint Thomas Aquinas High School requires three years of math to graduate but recommends that all students take four years of math. The Math Department offers an extensive list of classes to assist students in attaining their future goals. Freshmen classes include Algebra I, Honors Algebra I, Honors Geometry, Honors Algebra I/Honors Geometry, or Honors Algebra. An additional option for freshmen is to take both Honors Algebra 2 and Accelerated Honors Geometry. Courses higher than Honors Algebra 1 are by invitation only from the Math Department Chair.

Since Algebra 1 is a foundation for future math, an Algebra test-out test is given in March to students who feel they have completed Algebra I. Those students who have also completed a full high school level course in Geometry may take the Geometry test-out. The department uses the test-outs along with placement tests to determine if a 9th grader will be placed in a math class above Honors Algebra 1. Course selections will be adjusted following Spring test-outs, if necessary. The objective of placement is to challenge students while developing their math skills at an appropriate pace.

There are multiple opportunities for students to earn college credit:

Dual enrollment with Johnson County Community College:

College Algebra, AP Statistics, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC.

Advanced Placement exam:

AP Precalculus, AP Statistics, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC.

Calculator Requirement:

All students are required to have a Texas Instruments TI-84+ calculator.

Mathematics Honors & AP Classes

Prerequisite: Generally, students should have a minimum grade of 86% in a preceding honors class or a minimum grade of 95% in a regular class before enrolling in an honors class.



MATHEMATICS

Course Number	Course Name	Possible Grade Level				Credit	Dual-Enrollment	Weighted Grade
		9	10	11	12			
04003, 040122	Algebra 1 & Math Lab	■				1.0		
040121	Algebra 1	■				1.0		
040101	Honors Algebra 1	■				1.0		■
040211	Practical Geometry		■			1.0		
040221	Geometry		■			1.0		
040201	Honors Geometry	■	■			1.0		■
040203	Accelerated Honors Geometry (Sem 2)	■	■			0.5		■
040103	Honors Algebra 1/Honors Geometry	■				1.0		■
040311	Intermediate Algebra			■		1.0		
040321	Algebra 2		■	■	■	1.0		
040301	Honors Algebra 2	■	■	■		1.0		■
040431	Algebra 3 with Trigonometry			■	■	1.0		
040630	AP Statistics			■	■	1.0	■	■
040420	College Algebra with Trigonometry			■	■	1.0	■	
040600	AP Precalculus		■	■	■	1.0		■
040610	AP Calculus AB			■	■	1.0	■	■
040620	AP Calculus BC				■	1.0	■	■

ALGEBRA 1 AND MATH LAB

Credit: 1 Algebra + 1 Elective

Grade 9

Course #: 040003, 040122

Prerequisite: Recommendation by counselor only

Algebra 1 with Math Lab occupies 2 classes in a student's schedule. The course covers the same content as Algebra 1. Since it meets every day, students will receive extra practice, support, and instruction from their Algebra teacher. The course offers an introduction to higher mathematics, providing the language and basics for mathematics above the level of arithmetic. Topics covered are: 1) simplifying variable expressions; 2) solving and graphing linear equations and inequalities; 3) factoring, graphing, and solving quadratic equations; 4) operations with rational expressions and equations; 5) simplifying radical expressions and solving radical equations; 6) an introduction to functions. Placement in Algebra 1 with Math Lab will be re-evaluated at the end of the first semester.

ALGEBRA 1

Credit: 1

Grade 9

Course #: 040121

Prerequisite: None

This course offers an introduction to higher mathematics, providing the language and basics for mathematics above the level of arithmetic. Topics covered are: 1) simplifying variable expressions; 2) solving and graphing linear equations and inequalities; 3) factoring, graphing, and solving quadratic equations; 4) operations with rational expressions and equations; 5) simplifying radical expressions and solving radical equations; 6) an introduction to functions.

HONORS ALGEBRA 1

H

Credit: 1

Grade 9

Course #: 040101

Prerequisite: None

The accelerated Algebra 1 course covers the same topics as Algebra 1 but in greater depth and a faster pace. Students can take this course as their first mathematics course (grade 9).



MATHEMATICS

PRACTICAL GEOMETRY

Credit: 1 Grades 10
Course #: 040211
Prerequisite: Algebra I and teacher recommendation

This course includes a review of Algebra 1 concepts. Topics include: 1) congruencies of line segments, angles, and triangles; 2) applications of parallel and perpendicular lines; 3) measurements of polygons and circles; and 4) coordinate geometry. Formal proofs are not emphasized. Intermediate Algebra or Algebra 2 should be the next level of math after successfully completing Practical Geometry.

NOTE: THIS COURSE DOES NOT COUNT AS A CORE COURSE FOR THE NCAA CLEARINGHOUSE.

GEOMETRY

Credit: 1 Grades 10
Course #: 040221
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 1

This course is designed to: 1) increase spatial perception; 2) develop reasoning and logic skills; 3) classify figures in terms of congruence and similarity and apply these relationships; 4) deduce properties of, and relationships between figures from given assumptions through exploring and using a hands-on approach. Students are encouraged to make generalizations based on observations through the use of concrete material.

NOTE: Students who have completed the Practical Geometry course may not enroll in this class.

HONORS GEOMETRY H

Credit: 1 Grades 9-10
Course #: 040201
Prerequisite: For 9th graders: Algebra 1 test-out and Math Department Chair invitation. For 10th graders: Successful completion of Algebra 1 or Honors Algebra 1 with teacher recommendation.

Honors Geometry covers the same topics as the regular Geometry course, but in greater depth and faster pace. A greater emphasis will be placed on proofs. Testing out of Algebra I is required prior to freshmen enrollment.

ACCELERATED HONORS GEOMETRY H

Credit: ½ Grades 9-10
Course #: 040203 (Sem 2)
Prerequisite: By invitation of the Math Department Chair only

This is a fast-paced course that covers Honors Geometry in the spring semester. The course is designed for the very advanced math student who is also taking a full year course of Honors Algebra 2. Students who take this course are positioned to study AP Calculus AB and AP Calculus BC before graduation. Students must demonstrate advanced ability through standardized test scores, grades, and department head recommendation.

HONORS ALGEBRA 1/ HONORS GEOMETRY H

Credit: 1 Grade 9
Course #: 040103
Prerequisite: By invitation of the Math Department Chair only

This is a fast paced course that combines Honors Algebra 1 and Honors Geometry with an emphasis on Geometry. It is designed for the very advanced student who has had exposure to Algebra 1 and wants to study calculus before graduation. Placement Test Scores and Algebra 1 test-out results will be used to determine eligibility. To ensure future success, students must maintain an 86% at the end of semester 1 or they will be moved to Honors Algebra 1 for semester 2.

INTERMEDIATE ALGEBRA

Credit: 1 Grades 11
Course #: 040311
Prerequisite: Algebra 1 and Geometry (practical or regular) and teacher recommendation.

The course is designed to review, strengthen, and further develop topics covered in Algebra I. It also introduces and develops topics in Algebra 2. This course is for students who are not yet ready for Algebra 2. Average or above-average math students should take Algebra 2. Intermediate Algebra is a good transition into Algebra 2.

NOTE: THIS COURSE DOES NOT COUNT AS A CORE COURSE FOR THE NCAA CLEARINGHOUSE.



MATHEMATICS

ALGEBRA 2

Credit: 1 Grades 10-12
Course #: 040321
Prerequisite: Algebra 1 and Geometry

This course is designed to deepen a student's understanding of Algebra. Topics covered are: 1) operations with rational, irrational, and complex expressions; 2) solving and graphing linear, quadratic, rational, exponential and logarithmic functions; 3) conic sections; 4) matrices.

HONORS ALGEBRA 2 **H**

Credit: 1 Grades 9-11
Course #: 040301
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Honors Algebra 1 and Honors Geometry or Teacher recommendation from Reg. Algebra and Geometry

The honors course covers the same topics as the regular course but in greater depth and at a faster pace.

ALGEBRA 3 WITH TRIGONOMETRY

Credit: 1 Grades 11-12
Course #: 040431
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 2

This course is designed to prepare students for college algebra, which is a requirement in most colleges and universities. It includes an expansion of Algebra 2 concepts and an introduction to trigonometry. Topics include: 1) right triangle trigonometry; 2) circular trigonometry; 3) trigonometry equations; 4) basic trigonometry graphing and identities; 5) polynomial functions; 6) rational functions; 7) logarithmic and exponential functions; 8) graphing functions; and 9) sequences and series.

AP STATISTICS

H, CC

Credit: 1 (College credit available) Grade 11-12
Course #: 040630 JCCC MATH 181

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Honors Algebra 2 with an 86% or higher. Concurrent enrollment in College Algebra, AP Pre-Calculus, AP Calculus AB, and AP Calculus BC is allowed.

Course Fee: Current tuition at JCCC is assessed if college credit is desired.

AP Statistics is an introductory college-level statistics course that introduces students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students cultivate their understanding of statistics using technology, investigations, problem solving, and writing as they explore concepts like variation and distribution; patterns and uncertainty; and data-based predictions, decisions, and conclusions. Course topics include: (1) Descriptive Statistics, (2) Sampling and Experimentation, (3) Probability, and (4) Statistical Inference.

Students enrolled in this course may also earn college credit through JCCC College Now, and JCCC tuition fees will apply. To enroll in JCCC for this class, students must meet placement requirements at JCCC. This year-long course is equivalent to a one-semester college course in statistics.

College credit may be earned for students who choose to take the AP test in May.



MATHEMATICS

COLLEGE ALGEBRA WITH TRIGONOMETRY

CC

Credit: 1 (College credit available)

Grades 11-12

Course #: 040420 JCCC MATH 171

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Honors Algebra 2 or Algebra 2 with teacher recommendation.

Fees: Current tuition at JCCC is assessed if college credit is desired.

This course is the study of functions and their graphs, techniques of solving equations, and applications. Students will analyze and graph constant, linear, quadratic, piecewise-defined, polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions; solve higher-degree equations and inequalities; and use matrices. The course includes an introduction to trigonometry including right triangle trigonometry, circular trigonometry, equations, and graphing. It is designed to give a thorough background for college-bound students.

Students enrolled in this course may earn 3 hours optional college credit through JCCC Quickstep, and JCCC tuition fees will apply. To enroll in JCCC for this class, students must meet placement requirements at JCCC. Students are encouraged to meet these required scores before the semester begins. JCCC enrollment occurs in the Fall.

AP PRECALCULUS

H

Credit: 1

Grades 10-12

Course #: 040600

Prerequisite: Completion of Honors Algebra 2 with 86% and teacher recommendation. Completion of Algebra 2 with 96% and teacher recommendation.

This course is designed to prepare students for college-level calculus. AP Precalculus fosters the development of a deep conceptual understanding of functions. Students acquire and apply mathematical tools in real-world modeling situations. Students study functions through graphical, numerical, analytical, and verbal representations. Students develop skills solving equations and manipulating expressions for the many function types throughout the course.

They study functions and their compositions, inverses, and transformations, and they use attributes to solve problems in applied contexts. The functions studied include polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, trigonometric, and polar functions.

College credit may be earned for students who choose to take the AP test in May.

AP CALCULUS AB

H, CC

Credit: 1 (College credit available)

Grade 11-12

Course #: 040610 JCCC MATH 241

Prerequisite: Successful completion of AP Precalculus with Trig with teacher recommendation.

Course Fee: Current tuition at JCCC is assessed if college credit is desired.

This course provides an understanding of differential and integral calculus from an algebraic and geometric perspective. Techniques and applications of differentiation and integration are developed. Students may earn credit through Advanced Placement examination in May. Students enrolled in this course may earn 5 hours optional college credit through JCCC College Now, and JCCC tuition fees will apply. To enroll in JCCC for this class, students must meet placement requirements at JCCC. Students must meet these requirements before the semester begins. JCCC enrollment occurs in the Fall.

College credit may be earned for students who choose to take the AP test in May.

AP CALCULUS BC

H, CC

Credit 1 (College credit available)

Grade 12

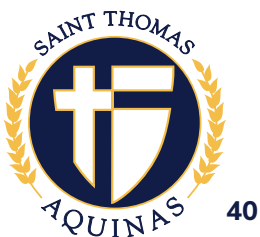
Course #: 040620 JCCC MATH 242

Prerequisite: Successful completion of AP Calculus AB with an 80% or higher in the second semester

Course Fee: Current tuition at JCCC is assessed if college credit is desired. (To obtain credit at JCCC you must have received credit for Calc 1 at JCCC or have earned a 3 on the Calc AB AP exam).

This course is a continuation of the concepts introduced in Calculus 1. Additional applications of differentiation and integration are developed. Students may earn credit through Advanced Placement examination in May. Students enrolled in this course may earn 5 hours college credit through JCCC College Now, and JCCC tuition fees will apply. To enroll in JCCC for this class, students must have received credit for Calc 1 at JCCC or have earned a 3 on the Calc AB AP exam. College credit is also available for student who choose to take the AP test in May.

College credit may be earned for students who choose to take the AP test in May.



PRACTICAL ARTS

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE PHYSICAL EDUCATION

KR = NO Classes in the Practical Arts Department are included in the Qualified Admissions Approved Curriculum for KS Regents Universities

The Family and Consumer Science department offers courses in Foods and Nutrition, Clothing, Interior Design and Child Development. Classes are one semester in length and include primarily hands-on types of activities. These courses are typically taken by upper class students, and fulfill requirements for electives. The Interior Design course fulfills a Fine Arts credit.

The Physical Education department requires students to take PE1 or PE1 Wts as a freshman. Health will be taught online concurrently in that class. Two PE classes and one health class are required for graduation.

Drafting is an introduction to the industry. AutoCAD is introduced. Students are expected to purchase basic drafting equipment to use in class.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

No more than two credits of Physical Education (four semesters) may be applied toward the 27 total credits required for graduation or 27.5 for graduation year 2028 and beyond.

KR = NO Classes in the Physical Education Department are included in the Qualified Admissions Approved Curriculum for KS Regents Universities

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 1

Credit: ½ Grade: 9
Course #: Girls 050017, Boys 050016
Prerequisite: None

PE 1 is an option for the physical education course for freshmen. Students participate in individual, team, and lifetime sports with an emphasis on overall improvement of physical fitness.

Health will be taught online concurrently.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 1 WEIGHTS

Credit: ½ Grade: 9
Course #: Girls 050137, Boys 050136
Prerequisite: None

PE 1 Weights is an option for the physical education course for freshmen. Students learn proper form and lifting techniques. Students will lift weights every class period, and will engage in warm-up and cool-down activities. Flexibility, agility, and running work will contribute to the overall physical fitness of participants.

Health will be taught online concurrently.

HEALTH

Credit: ½ Grade: 9
Course #: 050005
Prerequisite: None. Students will complete an online health program concurrent to their PE 1.

Encouraging students to make responsible, respectful, informed, and capable decisions about topics that affect the well-being of themselves and others, this course is a one-semester course that provides students with comprehensive information they can use to develop healthy attitudes and behavior patterns. Designed for high school students, this informative and engaging course encourages students to recognize that they have the power to choose healthy behaviors to reduce risks.

FB PHYSICAL EDUCATION PE 1

Credit: ½ Grade: 9 (FB players)
Course #: FB 050179 (Sem 1)
Prerequisite: None

FB Physical Education PE 1 is an option for the physical education course for freshmen football players. Students learn proper form and lifting techniques. Students will lift weights every class period, and will engage in warm-up and cool-down activities. Flexibility, agility, and running work will contribute to the overall physical fitness of participants.

Health will be taught online concurrently.

PRACTICAL ARTS

Course Number	Course Name	Possible Grade Level				Credit	Dual-Enrollment	Weighted Grade
		9	10	11	12			
040321	FB Weights 9	■				0.5		
050179	Boys FB Physical Education 1	■				0.5		
050279	FB Weights 10		■			0.5		
050017	Girls Physical Education 1	■				0.5		
050016	Boys Physical Education 1	■				0.5		
050137	Girls Physical Education 1 Weights	■				0.5		
050136	Boys Physical Education 1 Weights	■				0.5		
050005	Health	■				0.5		
050036	Girls Physical Education 2		■			0.5		
050035	Boys Physical Education 2		■			0.5		
050125	Girls Physical Education 2 Weights		■			0.5		
050120	Boys Physical Education 2 Weights		■			0.5		
050335	Girls Advanced Physical Education			■	■	0.5		
050315	Boys Advanced Physical Education			■	■	0.5		
050345	Girls Advanced Physical Education 2			■	■	0.5		
050325	Boys Advanced Physical Education 2			■	■	0.5		
050435	Girls Weight Training 1			■	■	0.5		
050445	Girls Weight Training 2			■	■	0.5		
050415	Boys Weight Training 1			■	■	0.5		
050425	Boys Weight Training 2			■	■	0.5		
010315	Child Development			■	■	0.5		
010325	Skills for Living				■	0.5		
010215	Foods 1	■	■	■	■	0.5		
010225	Foods 2			■	■	0.5		
010335	Interior Design		■	■	■	0.5		
020311	Drafting	■	■	■	■	1.0		
020325	Principles of Applied Engineering 1		■	■	■	0.5 or 1.0		
020330	Principles of Applied Engineering 2			■	■	0.5 or 1.0		

FB WEIGHTS 9

Credit: ½

Grade 9 (FB players)

Course #: 050135 (Sem 2)

Proper lifting form and technique are taught in this class. The class is graded using Hang Clean, Bench, Squat scores based on norm standards for grade and weight. Leadership and daily points are also included.

* This course is an elective credit.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 2

Credit: ½

Grade 10

Course #: Girls 050036, Boys 050035, FB 050279 (Sem 1)

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Physical Education & Health 9/PE1

Physical education 2 is an option for the second of two required physical education courses. This course builds on activities and skills learned during PE 1, continuing the emphasis on improvement of physical fitness. In addition to being physically active, the students will continue to explore sports, games, and activities they can incorporate into their daily lives as adults.

PRACTICAL ARTS

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 2 WEIGHTS

Credit: ½ Grade: 10
Course #: Girls 050125, Boys 050120

Physical Education 2 Weights builds upon the work done in PE1 Weights and continues to emphasize proper form and lifting techniques. Students continue to build on the foundation developed in PE Weights 1. Students will lift weights every class period, and will engage in warm-up and cool-down activities. Flexibility, agility, and running work will contribute to the overall physical fitness of participants.

ADVANCED PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Credit: ½ Grade: 11-12
Course #: Girls 050335, Boys 050315

This course is designed with an emphasis upon lifetime fitness and activities. In addition to being physically active, the students will continue to explore sports, games, and activities they can incorporate into their daily lives as adults.

ADVANCED PHYSICAL EDUCATION 2

Credit: ½ Grade: 11-12
Course #: Girls 050345, Boys 050325

Advanced physical education 2 is an elective physical education course. This course builds on activities and skills learned during Advanced PE, continuing the emphasis on improvement of physical fitness. In addition to being physically active, the students will continue to explore sports, games, and activities they can incorporate into their daily lives as adults.

BOYS' WEIGHT TRAINING

Credit: ½ Grades 11-12
Course #: 1 - 050415, 2 - 050425
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Physical Education and Health 9 and 10

Proper lifting form and technique are taught in this class. Conditioning, running and plyometrics are also incorporated into the course. Basic muscular function and different modes of weight training are taught. The course offers flexibility to help athletes who are in season or out of season as well as training programs for non-athletes to improve overall strength and physical fitness.

GIRLS' WEIGHT TRAINING

Credit: ½ Grades 11-12
Course #: 1 - 050435, 2 - 050445
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Physical Education & Health 9 and 10

Proper lifting form and techniques for the female athlete are taught in this class. This course is designed to help student-athletes both during their sport season and in preparation for their sport season. A general training and conditioning program is included for those interested in a lifetime fitness activity.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE

KR = NO Classes in the Family and Consumer Science Department are included in the Qualified Admissions Approved Curriculum for KS Regents Universities

CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Credit: ½
Grades 11-12
Course #: 010315
Prerequisite: None

This course teaches students how humans develop and how to care for children. Units include responsibilities of parenthood, family structures, conception, pregnancy, and childbirth. Students study the physical, social, and emotional development of infants and toddlers. They also have the opportunity for a baby care simulation using an electronic "Real Care Baby." In addition, students get hands-on experience working with the kids in the Little Saints Daycare here at STA. For the safety and well-being of the Little Saints, the health department of Kansas requires current documentation of a negative TB test provided to the STA school nurse prior to enrolling in Child Development class.

SKILLS FOR LIVING

Credit: ½ Grade 12
Course #: 010325
Prerequisite: None

This course provides basic information and teaches skills for living on your own. Topics include: personality profile, college and careers, checking accounts and balancing bank accounts, savings, scholarship research, money and time management, selecting a living space, living with a roommate, nutrition, cooking lab, etiquette, laundry, clothing repair, basic car care, personal safety, cyber safety, identity theft and drug abuse.

Skills class incorporates online programs: "Knowledge Matters: Business Sims" and the "Banzai plus" programs.

PRACTICAL ARTS

FOODS 1

Credit: ½

Grades 9-12

Course #: 010215

Prerequisite: None

This one semester course emphasizes meal planning and food preparation techniques. In a laboratory setting, evaluation of food products, background nutritional information, and care of the kitchen are also included. Students practice basic cooking skills by following safety, sanitation, and nutritional guidelines. This course is designed to encourage an interest in issues relating to food and nutrition.

FOODS 2

Credit: ½

Grades 11-12

Course #: 010225

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Foods and Nutrition and Teacher Recommendation

This one semester course includes the study of International Foods. Students expand skills developed in Foods and Nutrition with new cooking situations and apply these new talents during practical laboratory experiences.

INTERIOR DESIGN

Credit: ½

Grades 10-12

Course #: 010335

Prerequisite: None

This course covers design topics including roof types and exterior architectural styles, floor plans and furniture arrangements, space and design of specific rooms, elements and principles of design, color, accessories, lighting, background treatments, and career information. Hands-on activities and experiences are emphasized. This course fulfills one half credit of the fine art requirement for graduation.

NOTE: Interior Design will not meet the University of Missouri fine art requirement for admission.

DRAFTING

Credit: 1

Grades 9-12

Course #: 020311

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed to introduce the fundamentals of drafting and design. Students will experience a variety of technical drawings to include Multiview Projections, Auxiliary Views, Object Shadowing, Isometric, Oblique and Perspective Drawings.

AutoCAD and 3D printing will be introduced. Students will individually compete in the KSPE Model Bridge Building Contest. Students are required to purchase special drafting equipment (approximately \$30). This course fulfills the fine arts credit needed for STA graduation.

PRINCIPLES OF APPLIED ENGINEERING 1

Credit: ½ or 1

Grades 10-12

Course #: 020325

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 1

This course will lay a foundation for understanding innovative and creative design processes. Students will problem solve to design, build, and 3D print working models using multiple CAD programs such as Fusion 360, AutoCAD, TinkerCAD and SketchUp, as well as other programs and applications as appropriate. Students will be expected to compete in area engineering competitions. Additional fees will be required and will vary depending on the students' choice in projects.

** This class can be taken either semester or for the year*

PRINCIPLES OF APPLIED ENGINEERING 2

Credit: ½ or 1

Grades 11-12

Course #: 020330

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Engineering 1

Engineering II course continues to expand the skills, knowledge and teamwork skills using various CAD programs that were introduced in our Engineering I class. Students will be expected to participate in area Engineering competitions, designing and creating working models with 3D printers and our laser cutter. Students will have the opportunity to choose some projects based on their person interest/field of study in engineering.

Additional fees will be required and will vary depending on the student's choice of projects.



SCIENCE

H = Honors Course

CC = College Credit

KR = Not included in the Qualified Admissions Approved Curriculum for KS Regents Universities because the course is a higher level and the requirement has been met by the prerequisite.

The sciences relate the study of the natural world through observation. St. Thomas Aquinas, Patron Saint of Students, was a student of St. Albert the Great, Patron Saint of Science, providing a unique opportunity for integration of faith and reason into the classroom content through historical connections. The curriculum is based upon Next Generation Science Standards adopted by the State of Kansas in accordance with the Saint Thomas Aquinas High School mission statement and Catholic faith.

Content knowledge is developed through strategies that incorporate varied assessments in critical literacy, analytical analysis, and modeling for explaining observations in the life and physical sciences. Practices are built around an inquiry-based learning environment for creative and collaborative opportunities so each student may be a contributing member of the learning community. Meaningful learning outcomes for furthering student interest and study are an important value of the curriculum.

Laboratory technology is used as a tool in conjunction with the BYOD school policy for activating student interest and increasing productivity both inside and outside the classroom.

Three years of science are required by the State of Kansas, based on a typical sequence of Biology (Honors/Regular), Chemistry 1 (Honors/Regular), and Physics 1 (Honors/Regular). Students who complete the required sequence in the first three years are provided options to develop further their interests and may choose from College Biology, Honors Chemistry 2, Honors Physics 2, Honors Anatomy/Physiology and Forensic Science. Prerequisites help students select the appropriate class placement. Senior level science courses and curriculum are structured through advanced college level texts and lab activities that model college.

BIOLOGY

Credit: 1 Grades 9
Course #: 060121
Prerequisite: None

Biology is the scientific study of life. This course is an introduction to the understanding of living organisms and vital processes in conjunction with the appreciation of life. Content includes the study of inheritance, history of life, microbes, plants, animal diversity and ecology.

HONORS BIOLOGY

Credit: 1 Grades 9
Course #: 060110
Prerequisite: Concurrent enrollment in H English 9 & recommended H Algebra 1 or higher

Biology is the scientific study of life. This course strives for an in-depth understanding of living organisms, including bacteria, plants, and animals, and the processes vital to life, along with appreciation of life. Honors biology is a fast-paced, rigorous course that incorporates laboratory work and technology to enhance student learning.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

Credit:1 Grade 10
Course #: 060341
Prerequisite: Biology and teacher recommendation

This course is a study of fundamental physics and chemistry principles. It provides a foundation for future science courses while encouraging problem-solving and study skills, as well as organizational and class time management skills. Students will be observing, measuring, classifying, interpreting data, graphing and forming conclusions through lab-based activities and demonstrations.

SCIENCE

Course Number	Course Name	Possible Grade Level				Credit	Dual-Enrollment	Weighted Grade
		9	10	11	12			
060121	Biology	■				1.0		
060110	Honors Biology	■				1.0		■
060341	Physical Science		■			1.0		
060221	Chemistry 1		■	■	■	1.0		
060201	Honors Chemistry 1		■	■	■	1.0		■
060405	Chemistry 2				■	0.5		
060800	AP Chemistry			■	■	1.0		■
060321	Physics 1			■	■	1.0		
060810	AP Physics 1			■	■	1.0		■
060505	Honors Physics 2				■	0.5		■
060401	Honors College Biology			■	■	1.0	■	■
060425	Honors Anatomy & Physiology			■	■	0.5		■
060430	Forensic Science			■	■	0.5		
060535	Zoology			■	■	0.5		
060700	Nursing Explorations (Sem 1)			■	■	0.5	■	
060710	Introduction to Health Professions (Sem 2)			■	■	0.5	■	

CHEMISTRY 1

Credit: 1

Grades 10-12

Course #: 060221

Prerequisites: 86% or above in Biology or 80% or above in Honors Biology

Chemistry is the science that deals with the structure and properties of matter and the changes that occur. This course is designed to acquaint students with scientific methodology and to provide a quantitative and qualitative approach to the understanding of matter and energy. This is done in accordance with the NGSS guidelines and will cover a variety of topics including: periodic law, atomic structure, chemical bonds and stoichiometry. Special emphasis is placed on problem solving and using mathematical skills. Newly acquired chemistry knowledge is applied to everyday life. Regular lab exercises are an important part of this course.

HONORS CHEMISTRY 1

H

Credit: 1

Grades 10-12

Course #: 060201

Prerequisite: 86% or higher in H Biology and Honors Algebra 1 or 94% or higher in Biology and Algebra 1

This course introduces students to chemical concepts by relating the structure of matter to its function, periodic law, energy exchanges in chemical reactions, and electromagnetic radiation. Topics are covered in a more in-depth mathematically-oriented manner than Chemistry I. Student-centered laboratory and computer investigations provide students with a variety of ways to develop models, interpret information, analyze data and develop critical thinking skills in accordance with the NGSS guidelines.



SCIENCE

CHEMISTRY 2

Credit: ½ Sem 1 only

Grades 12

Course #: 060405

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Chemistry 1

Chemistry 2 builds upon the foundational principles introduced in Chemistry 1, offering students an opportunity to deepen their understanding of essential chemical concepts. This course reviews critical topics from introductory chemistry, including compounds, chemical formulas, reactions, and stoichiometry, ensuring students gain a strong grasp of these fundamental ideas.

Students will explore a wide range of chemical reactions, enhance their skills in balancing chemical equations, and apply stoichiometric relationships to solve complex quantitative problems. Throughout the course, emphasis will be placed on the practical application of chemical concepts through lab experiments and hands-on activities. This will allow students to reinforce their theoretical knowledge, critically analyze data, and draw meaningful conclusions.

By the end of Chemistry 2, students will have a comprehensive understanding of the core principles that govern chemical interactions, equipping them for more advanced studies in chemistry or related scientific fields.

AP CHEMISTRY

Credit: 1

Grades 11-12

Course #: 060800

Prerequisite: successful completion of Honors Chemistry 1 or a minimum grade of 90% in Chemistry 1 and concurrent enrollment in Honors Algebra 2 or higher.

AP Chemistry is equivalent to a college-level general chemistry course. The AP Chemistry course provides students with a college-level foundation to support future advanced coursework in chemistry. Students cultivate their understanding of chemistry through inquiry-based investigations, as they explore content such as:

Atomic Structure and Properties, Compound Structure and Properties, Properties of Substances and Mixtures, Chemical Reactions, Kinetics, Thermochemistry, Equilibrium, Acids and Bases, Thermodynamics and Electrochemistry. This course requires that 25 percent of instructional time be spent in hands-on laboratory work, with an emphasis on inquiry-based investigations that provide students with opportunities to demonstrate the foundational chemistry principles and apply the science practices.

College credit may be earned for students who choose to take the AP test in May.

PHYSICS 1

Credit: 1

Grades 11-12

Course #: 060321

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology and Chemistry or Physical Science

Physics is the study of the fundamental laws of nature related to matter and energy. This course is an introductory course for the study of the classical Physics for explaining the natural world that surrounds us. Content includes kinematics, mechanics, wave theory, sound, light, and electricity. Basic analytical skills along with practices to develop critical literacy for applying the laws of Physics are incorporated into varied assessments for development of content knowledge. The course includes hands on laboratory activities for development of understanding use 2D to 3D modeling for meaningful learning opportunities utilizing NGSS guidelines.

AP PHYSICS 1

H

Credit: 1

Grades 11-12

Course # 060810

Prerequisite: Concurrent enrollment in AP Precalculus or higher math

AP Physics 1 is equivalent to the first course in an introductory college course sequence in algebra-based physics. AP Physics 1 is an algebra-based, introductory college-level physics course. Students cultivate their understanding of physics by developing models of physical phenomena through inquiry-based investigations. Students build their understanding of physical models as they explore and solve problems in these content areas: Kinematics, Forces and Translational Dynamics, Work, Energy, and Power, Linear Momentum, Torque and Rotational Dynamics, Energy and Momentum of Rotating Systems, Oscillations, Fluids. This course requires that 25 percent of instructional time be spent in hands-on laboratory work, with an emphasis on inquiry-based investigations that provide students with opportunities to demonstrate the foundational physics principles and apply the science practices.

College credit may be earned for students who choose to take the AP test in May.



SCIENCE

HONORS PHYSICS 2

H

Credit: ½

Grade 12

Course #: 060505

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Algebra 2; concurrent enrollment in College Algebra or higher is suggested (honors courses preferred and advised) with the grade of 86% or better.

Recommended cumulative GPA 90%

Physics is the study of the fundamental laws of nature related to matter and energy. This course connects prior knowledge from Physics I with new content and greater depth in the study in electricity, magnetism, heat, and light. The course adds greater depth into analytical reasoning and use of laboratory technology for modeling laws related to content. Both engineering and scientific practices are used for connecting content to meaningful learning opportunities and provide students the opportunity to explore further educational study in the sciences.

HONORS COLLEGE BIOLOGY

H, CC

Credit: 1

Grade 11-12

Course #: 060401 JCCC BIOL 135

Prerequisite (senior): Successful completion of Biology and Chemistry.
(junior): Teacher recommendation

Recommended GPA 90% and concurrent enrollment in College Algebra or higher

Honors College Biology is an introductory college biology class that integrates lecture and laboratory. This year-long class is fast-paced and rigorous with five-unit tests per semester and a final exam. Subjects covered include basic biochemistry, cell structure and function, cellular metabolism, Mendelian inheritance, natural selection and evolution, cell physiology, and development of plants and animals from the single-celled stage to the embryonic stage.

NOTE: Current tuition at JCCC is assessed if college credit is desired. Students may sign up for 4 hours JCCC credit.

HONORS ANATOMY/PHYSIOLOGY

H

Credit: ½

Grade 11-12

Course #: 060425

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology and Chemistry.

Recommended GPA 90% and concurrent enrollment of College Algebra or higher

This course is designed for students contemplating careers in a medical profession. Structure and function of the systems of the human body are explored. Regular classroom work is enhanced with laboratory activities, including small animal dissection. Careers utilizing anatomy and physiology are introduced. Units covered include skeletal, excretory, digestive, circulatory, nervous, respiratory and reproductive systems.

FORENSIC SCIENCE

Credit: ½

Grade 11-12

Course #: 060430

Prerequisites: successful completion of Biology, Chemistry, and either Physical Science or Physics.

Forensic science will introduce students to the basics of forensic science. This course offers extensive laboratory experience that integrates the concepts learned in biology, chemistry and physics to strengthen individual skills in scientific reasoning and observation. Using inquiry based settings, students will learn basic scientific and mathematical methods and models required in forensic science. Topics including: history, physical evidence, legal aspects, death investigation, fingerprinting, DNA analysis and trace evidence. Students will perform a wide range of forensic science techniques.

ZOOLOGY

Credit: ½

Grade 11-12

Course: 060535

Prerequisite: successful completion of Biology

Zoology is a semester-based course that will survey the major phyla of the animal kingdom. Zoology will build on and enhance your knowledge of all animal life forms from single celled organisms to complex mammals such as yourself. The course will include but is not limited to the topics of cell structures, ecology, reproduction, classification, and evolution across the nine different animal phyla. This course will use a variety of teaching techniques including debate/discussion, research, lecture, lab, and modeling.



SCIENCE

NURSING EXPLORATION

CC

Credit: ½ (Sem 1)

Grade 11-12

Course #: 060700

Prerequisite: Must be a Junior or Senior with an 85% or higher GPA. Students must enroll for college credit.

Nursing Exploration is designed for students to discover and examine the nursing profession, including specific roles and responsibilities. Students will investigate diverse professional opportunities, professional standards, and competencies. Students will develop a foundation for essential knowledge and skills including professional mentoring and networking to promote success as a nursing student. Course content will be presented in a hybrid format, including didactic instruction, skills labs, and simulation experiences in both on-site and off-site locations. The course will be taught by Nursing faculty from St. Luke's College of Nursing at Rockhurst University and moderated by a faculty member at Saint Thomas Aquinas High School.

INTRODUCTION TO HEALTH PROFESSIONS

CC

Credit: ½ (Sem 2)

Grade 11-12

Course #: 060710

Prerequisite: Must be a Junior or Senior with an 85% or higher GPA. Students must enroll for college credit through Rockhurst University.

This course provides an overview of health sciences and careers in health care related fields. Students explore relevant health professions and requirements for job and market demands in health sciences through an interprofessional lens. Through the introduction of a broad scope of current issues in health care, students evaluate the circumstances and path for their professional education and future career. Topics such as disability, community health, world health, and health care policies are considered.



SOCIAL STUDIES

The mission of Social Studies education in the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas is to prepare students to evaluate and to act upon socially significant material in accordance with Catholic tradition and values. The role of the Social Studies curriculum is to develop knowledgeable, active participants in a democracy and an interdependent world.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Course Number	Course Name	Possible Grade Level				Credit	Dual-Enrollment	Weighted Grade
		9	10	11	12			
070151	World History		■			1.0		
070600	AP World History: Modern		■			1.0		■
070311	American History			■		1.0		
070301	Honors American History			■		1.0	■	■
070610	AP U.S. History			■		1.0		■
070751	AP Macroeconomics			■	■	0.5		■
070515	Economics			■	■	0.5		
070415	American Government				■	0.5		
070620	AP US Government & Politics				■	0.5		■
070050	Cultural Studies	■	■	■	■	0.5		
070355	Sociology			■	■	0.5		
070315	Psychology			■	■	0.5		
070630	AP Psychology			■	■	0.5		■
070100	Contemporary Issues			■	■	0.5		

SOCIAL STUDIES

WORLD HISTORY

Credit: 1 Grades 10
Course #: 070151
Prerequisite: None

This course introduces students to the study of the history of the world from the beginning of man to the 21st century. The course will cover intellectual trends, revolutionary movements, social interactions, political ideologies, economic theories, and geographical impacts. The course is rigorous and relevant with instruction that integrates thinking skills, historical processes, and content so that students are able to apply their learning to their own lives.

AP WORLD HISTORY: MODERN

Credit: 1 Grade 10
Course #: 070600
Prerequisite: None, but concurrent enrollment in Honors English is recommended. Students should be very strong readers and writers, capable of college level work.

In AP World History: Modern, students investigate significant events, individuals, developments, and processes from 1200 to the present. Students develop and use the same skills, practices, and methods employed by historians: analyzing primary and secondary sources; developing historical arguments; making historical connections; and utilizing reasoning about comparison, causation, and continuity and change over time. The course provides six themes that students explore throughout the course in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places: humans and the environment, cultural developments and interactions, governance, economic systems, social interactions and organization, and technology and innovation. There are no prerequisites for AP World History: Modern. Students should be able to read a college-level textbook and write grammatically correct, complete sentences.

Students taking this class will be required to take the AP exam.

AMERICAN HISTORY

Credit: 1 Grade 11
Course #: 070311

This course-of-study begins with a review of the major ideas, issues, and events of the late 19th century including imperialism, industrialization, and immigration. Students will then concentrate on the critical events, people, groups, ideas, and issues of the period from 1900 to the present, including Progressivism, World War I, the 1920s, the Great Depression and New Deal, World War II and its aftermath, the Civil Rights Movement, Vietnam, and the United States' response to globalization and international crises. The course is rigorous and relevant, with instruction that integrates thinking skills, historical processes, and content so that students are able to apply the learning to their own lives.

HONORS

AMERICAN HISTORY

H, CC

Credit 1 (College credit available) Grade 11
Course #: 070301 JCCC HIST141
Prerequisite: Concurrent enrollment in Honors English recommended but not required
Course Fee: Current tuition at JCCC is assessed if college credit is desired.

This survey course (U.S. History Since 1877) will emphasize developments and trends in American society from the 1870s to the early twenty-first century. Following a review of the major themes, trends, and events in the first period of U.S. History, greater attention is given to the Reconstruction era, industrialization, immigration, reform movements, World Wars I and II, social and cultural trends, and foreign policy. Emphasis will be on analysis and interpretation of these developments. A major research project is completed in the spring semester to utilize the skills practiced all year in analyzing primary and secondary sources, developing historical arguments, making historical comparisons, and drawing connections to today.



SOCIAL STUDIES

AP U.S. HISTORY

Credit: 1

Grade 11

Course #: 070610

Prerequisite: Prior enrollment in an Honors English class is recommended, but not required. Students should be very strong readers and writers, capable of college level work. Students are required to complete a summer assignment prior to the start of the course.

AP U.S. History is designed to be the equivalent of a two-semester introductory college or university U.S. history course. In AP U.S. History students investigate significant events, individuals, developments, and processes in nine historical periods from approximately 1491 to the present. Students develop and use the same skills, practices, and methods employed by historians: analyzing primary and secondary sources; developing historical arguments; making historical comparisons; and utilizing reasoning about contextualization, causation, and continuity and change over time. The course also provides seven themes that students explore throughout the course in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places: American and national identity; migration and settlement; politics and power; work, exchange, and technology; America in the world; geography and the environment; and culture and society.

Students taking this class will be required to take the AP exam.

AP MACROECONOMICS

H

Credit: ½ (Sem 2)

Grade 11-12

Course #: 070751

Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra 2

AP Macroeconomics is a college-level course that introduces students to the principles that apply to an economic system as a whole. The course places particular emphasis on the study of national income and price-level determination. It also develops students' familiarity with economic performance measures, the financial sector, stabilization policies, economic growth, and international economics. Students learn to use graphs, charts, and data to analyze, describe, and explain economic concepts.

Students taking this class will be required to take the AP exam.

ECONOMICS

Credit: ½

Grade 11-12

Course #: 070515

This senior course elective introduces economics as a key strand of history, government, and social studies, and helps to develop a critical understanding of the assumptions underpinning economics. Economics is a

unique way of thinking that offers insights into human behavior in a world of different values, resources, and cultures. Students who think in an economic way will understand concepts better and how each concept relates to the others. The integrated nature of economics utilizes mathematics, statistics, and the interpretation of primary source data to examine important issues. This course establishes a framework of basic economic theory which can be extended and applied to future learning. Instruction facilitates an appreciation of economic forces in shaping the world in which students live. This course is rigorous and relevant with instruction that integrates thinking skills, historical processes, and content so that students are able to apply the learning to their own lives.

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

Credit: ½

Grade 12

Course #: 070415

The goal in American Government is to achieve better understanding of the American political system, which enables the student to make better decisions about the American political system and become better citizens. The topics covered are foundation of American government, political behavior, and the three branches of government. While studying local government issues, students use portfolios, Constitutional books and public policy booklets. A government course is required for graduation.

AP U.S. GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

Credit: ½

Grade 12

Course #: 070620

Prerequisite: None. Students should be very strong readers and writers, capable of college level work.

AP U.S. Government and Politics provides a college-level, nonpartisan introduction to key political concepts, ideas, institutions, policies, interactions, roles, and behaviors that characterize the constitutional system and political culture of the United States. Students will study U.S. foundational documents, Supreme Court decisions, and other texts and visuals to gain an understanding of the relationships and interactions among political institutions, processes, and behaviors. They will also engage in disciplinary practices that require them to read and interpret data, make comparisons and applications, and develop evidence-based arguments. In addition, they will complete a political science research or applied civics project. There are no prerequisite courses for AP U.S. Government and Politics.

College credit may be earned for students who choose to take the AP test in May.

SOCIAL STUDIES

CULTURAL STUDIES

Credit: ½

Grades: 9-12

Course #: 070050

Prerequisite: None

This elective course focuses on the relationships among people, places, and environments leading to fluid global geographic patterns over time. The students will use geographic methods to compare and analyze landforms, climates, and natural resources, as well as cultural, political, economic, and religious characteristics of the world regions. Students will use a variety of interdisciplinary sources, both primary and secondary, such as maps, pictures, and documents to learn about both the geography and the cultures of different world regions.

SOCIOLOGY

Credit ½

Grades 11 – 12

Course #: 070355

Sociology is an elective course that studies human society and social behavior. This course illustrates how the groups, or social structures, that one belongs to have a profound influence on the way you think, feel and act. Positive human relationships are an essential part of a civilized society and how we interact with each other is important so that we can find answers to questions and solve problems in our world. The way that we view the world comes from what we learn in our everyday activities. This course deals with the social atmosphere that helps to make us who we are and how we behave. Sociology will cover topics such as the sociological perspective, culture, socialization, deviance, social control, group behavior social class and social institutions. The key component of this course is to study ourselves and the society that influences our behavior.

PSYCHOLOGY

Credit: ½

Grades 11 – 12

Course #: 070315

This elective course introduces students to the systematic and scientific study of behavior and mental processes. Students will develop the critical thinking, research, and analytical skills necessary to examine and evaluate psychological principles and phenomena associated with each of the major approaches/perspectives within the field. Emphasis will be placed on psychologists' reliance on scientific inquiry, including research methods and ethical considerations, in their science and practice. Units of study include, but are not limited to: History and Approaches; Research Methods; Biological Bases of Behavior; States of Consciousness; Sensation and Perception; Developmental Psychology and Abnormal Psychology.

AP PSYCHOLOGY

Credit: ½

Grades 11-12

Course #: 070630

Prerequisite: Psychology

Advanced Placement Psychology elaborates on the concepts and skills learned in Psychology. Units of study include, but are not limited to: Learning; Memory; Cognition; Testing and Individual Differences; Personality; Motivation and Emotion; Social Psychology; and Treatment of Psychological Disorders. This course is designed to prepare students to take the Psychology AP exam.

College credit may be earned for students who choose to take the AP test in May.

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

Credit: ½

Grades: 11-12

Course #: 070100

Prerequisite: None

This elective course is designed to assist student recognition of political, social, economic and ideological developments facing today's world. The curriculum is devoted to studying the historical origins and development of political and social challenges confronting contemporary humanity at home and abroad. Possibilities include regional studies (ex. state of affairs in the Middle East), as well as issues of global concern such as environmental issues, the War on Terror, world poverty, sustainable development and global economic development. Specific topics to explore will be developed in conjunction with the students according to their interests and needs.



BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY

BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY

Course Number	Course Name	Possible Grade Level				Credit	Dual-Enrollment	Weighted Grade
		9	10	11	12			
002050	Excel for Business		■	■	■	0.5		
002051	Introduction to Business Analytics			■	■	0.5		
002321	Accounting 1			■	■	0.5		
002405	Business Communications			■	■	0.5		
002415	Marketing			■	■	0.5		
002310	Personal Finance			■	■	0.5		
070751	AP Macroeconomics			■	■	0.5		■
002220	Digital Creative Applications	■				0.5		
002800	AP Computer Science Principles	■	■	■	■	0.5		■
002295	Video Creation		■	■	■	0.5		
030271	Yearbook		■	■	■	1.0		
002298	Broadcast Video Production (HALO)	■	■	■	■	0.5		
001335	Graphic Design		■	■	■	0.5		

BUSINESS

EXCEL FOR BUSINESS

Credit: ½ Grades 10-12
 Course #: 002050
 Prerequisite: Digital Creative Applications

This course covers Excel basics, data entry, advanced formula usage, data analysis, chart creation, and data protection. Students will apply their newfound knowledge to real-world business scenarios, enhancing their problem-solving and critical thinking abilities. By the end of the course, the students should be prepared to take the Microsoft Certification exam for Excel.

INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS ANALYTICS

Credit: ½ Grades 11-12
 Course #: 002051
 Prerequisite: None

This introductory business analytics class provides high school students with a foundational understanding of using data to make informed business decisions. Students will learn essential concepts such as data collection, analysis, and visualization techniques. The course introduces popular tools and software used in the industry to analyze business data effectively.

ACCOUNTING 1

Credit ½ Grades 11-12
 Course #: 002321
 Prerequisite: None

This course is designed to introduce students to the accounting cycle and principles for a sole proprietorship and a merchandising business organized as a corporation. Students prepare and analyze financial transactions and statements according to accounting principles. Automated accounting systems are also introduced. A study of possible careers in the field of accounting supplements the study of these basic fundamentals and skills. This course prepares students for further study of accounting in high school, college, or entry into the business community as accounting clerks or bookkeepers.

BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY

BUSINESS COMMUNICATION

Credit: ½ Grades 11-12
Course #: 002405
Prerequisite: None

This course is designed to introduce students to the best practices of communication in a professional setting as well as acquiring tools to communicate messages to peers, clients or business partners. Building a foundation for communicating in business, journalism, healthcare, or any profession is key to leadership roles today and in the future. This foundations class will prepare students for jobs and job interviews, resume building, email etiquette, social media awareness, and many other events that will take place over the course of their education and early career.

MARKETING

Credit ½ Grades 11-12
Course #002415
Prerequisite: None

This course introduces the student to marketing from the perspective of an entrepreneur creating a new business firm. Topics included are the marketing system, consumer and industrial behavior, market segmentation and positioning, product development, channels of distribution, pricing strategy, sales management, and marketing promotion. Other areas discussed are business risk, profit factors, communication and interpersonal skills for success in business, financing and ethical business practice.

PERSONAL FINANCE

Credit: ½ Grades 11-12
Course #: 002310
Prerequisite: None

This course covers the necessary skills in personal finance that every person should have before leaving high school. Course content includes:

Saving, Banking, Zero-Based Budgeting, Consumer Spending (Debt), Consumer Credit, Cash-Flow Your Education, Consumer Laws, Financial Planning, Seven Rules of Negotiating, Insurance, Investments, Career Goal Setting, and lastly Sharing your Time and Talents. (Course content is provided by Dave Ramsey's Foundations in Personal Finance) The end goal is to teach students how to avoid debt, budget with intention, invest, and build wealth so they can give like no one else. This course will change the financial future of students and set them on a path to win with money, changing the way they look at money forever. Students will be empowered, equipped and entertained while building confidence in their own financial decision-making.

AP MACROECONOMICS

H

Credit: ½ (Sem 2) Grades 11-12
Course #: 070751
Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra 2

AP Macroeconomics is a college-level course that introduces students to the principles that apply to an economic system as a whole. The course places particular emphasis on the study of national income and price-level determination. It also develops students' familiarity with economic performance measures, the financial sector, stabilization policies, economic growth, and international economics. Students learn to use graphs, charts, and data to analyze, describe, and explain economic concepts. The AP test is required for those enrolled in the course.

College credit may be earned for students who choose to take the AP test in May.

TECHNOLOGY

To graduate, students must complete Digital Creative Apps.

The Technology Electives are: Video Creation, Coding for the Web, and Graphic Design. For students interested in journalism (HALO and Yearbook), technology credit can be earned in Yearbook with administrative approval.

Our introductory technology course is Digital Creative Applications. The skills taught in Digital Creative Apps will benefit students as they encounter technology across all curricular areas at Saint Thomas Aquinas High School, enrollment in the course is recommended during freshman year.

DIGITAL CREATIVE APPLICATIONS

Credit: ½ Grades 9-12
Course #: 002220
Prerequisite: None

Students will develop skills using creative software (Adobe Creative Cloud), Excel, coding, and Canva. Students will learn to use their school accounts: Skyward, Google Mail and Google Drive. Students will also develop file management skills when using the school's network and/or their own device. Christian Digital Citizenship, information security, and personal responsibility will be particularly emphasized and integral to every lesson.



BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY

AP COMPUTER SCIENCE PRINCIPLES

Credit: ½ Grades 9-12
Course #: 002800
Prerequisite: Digital Creative Applications AND Algebra 1

AP Computer Science Principles is an introductory college-level computing course that introduces students to the breadth of the field of computer science. Students learn to design and evaluate solutions and to apply computer science to solve problems through the development of algorithms and programs. They incorporate abstraction into programs and use data to discover new knowledge. Students also explain how computing innovations and computing systems—including the internet—work, explore their potential impacts, and contribute to a computing culture that is collaborative and ethical.

College credit may be earned for students who choose to take the AP test in May.

VIDEO CREATION

Credit: ½ Grades 10-12
Course #: 002295
Prerequisite: Digital Creative Applications

The goal of the course is to expose students to a variety of video creation and editing hardware and software. Software titles used include Adobe Premiere Pro® and Canva. Students will learn the techniques necessary to create and edit quality digital video productions for school and personal purposes.

YEARBOOK

Credit: 1 Grades 10-12
Course #: 030271
Prerequisite: Digital Creative Applications & Teacher Approval

Students handle all reporting, writing, editing, photography, video and design responsibilities for the school yearbook, the Medallion. Enrollment is limited; an application process is used for staff selection. Students need to be independent, responsible workers who meet deadlines and are willing to work outside of school hours.

BROADCAST VIDEO PRODUCTION (HALO)

Credit: ½ per semester (Sem 1 and/or Sem 2) Grades 9-12
Course #: 002298
Prerequisite: DCA and application process/teacher approval

Students enrolled in this class will be responsible for producing the morning announcements, advertisements and promotions, and for providing sports event coverage. They may also produce special event coverage, human interest stories, magazine-show packages, podcasts, and entertainment programming. Throughout the course, students will receive hands-on training in a variety of production tasks including graphic design, audio and video engineering, directing, producing, camera operation, on-screen and on-mic talent, video editing, and video journalism.

Each student will be required to produce graphics, create video content, and write and edit scripts to meet deadlines. Additionally, students will attend outside events (e.g., sporting events) and are expected to maintain high standards of conduct and professionalism in all aspects of their work.

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Credit: ½ Grades 10-12
Course #: 001335
Prerequisite: None

This is an introductory class to digital art and graphic design with the use of technology to create artistic images, image manipulation, digital photography, graphic design, visual literacy, and the elements and principles of design in compositions. Art history and the evolution of technology incorporated into the arts will also be studied.



SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES

KR = These special opportunities are not included in the Qualified Admissions Approved Curriculum for KS Regents Universities.

GUIDED STUDIES

KR

Credit: .5 credits per semester

Grade 9

Students may register for 2 semesters if the course instructors approve.

Course #: 070121

Prerequisite: Invitation only. Students may register for 2 semesters if the course instructors approve.

This course is designed to help students in their transition to high school at Saint Thomas Aquinas. In addition to academic/personal support, the Guided Studies course provides instruction in study skills and techniques (which include note-taking skills) and executive functioning skills (which include: planning, metacognition, self-control, working memory, attention, organization, perseverance, task initiation, improving time management, and flexibility). Course selection is determined by the collective input from parents, students, middle school teachers, Student Services Team, and STA Administration as well as a review of previous report cards, placement tests, IEP, 504 Plan, doctors' reports, parent and student comments.

Students allowed/invited to enroll in Guided Studies:

- Have a documented disability that affects executive functioning/learning
- Have an IEP, 504, or CSSSP from middle school
- Have "At-risk" scores on the HSPT
- Have "At-risk" grades or behaviors from middle school

2nd semester enrollment:

- Parent and student request
- Teacher or counselor recommendation

Note: This class has students who have academic needs as well as students who are in honors courses.

PEER TUTORING

KR

Credit: ½ each semester

Grade 12

Course #: 1st Semester: 090075, 2nd Semester: #90085

Prerequisite: Application and approval by administration

Peer tutors are assigned to a classroom, (often Algebra 1) working with specific students, or in Guided Studies working with students in several areas of academics. The grade issued is Pass/ Fail and is not included in the computation of the student's GPA. Students must pick up an application from the Counseling Office. Seniors submit applications for student aide to the Academic Counseling Department. Peer tutors are required to be in the classroom or Guided Studies on time every day and ready to assist as needed. The main function of the peer tutor is to support students in their academic endeavors. Students may NOT enroll in peer tutoring and student aide in the same semester.

Note: Peer Tutoring is utilized as needed per teacher. Placement is not guaranteed.

STUDENT AIDE

KR

Credit: ¼

Grade 12

Prerequisite: Application and approval by administration

Course #: 1st Semester: #090015, 2nd Semester: #090095

Seniors may serve as student aides during one semester. The student's performance is graded. The grade issued is Pass/ Fail and is not included in the computation of the student's GPA. Students must pick up an application from the Counseling Office. Seniors submit applications for student aide to the Academic Counseling Department. Applicants must be trustworthy, responsible, dependable and capable of assuming a variety of tasks to which they might be assigned. Students must have good discipline records with no referrals or probation. The final determination rests with an academic counselor and administration. Students may NOT enroll in peer tutoring and student aide in the same semester. Students may only enroll as a student aide for 1 semester.



ZERO HOUR

The following courses are offered during the school day and/or again before school at a time designated as Zero Hour.

The following courses may be taken on this basis:

These classes are offered during Zero Hour ONLY.

Chamber Choir (all year) #003151

Show Choir Band (Tue & Fri) #003223

SUMMER SCHOOL

DISCLAIMER:

These courses are SUBJECT TO CHANGE due to minimum enrollment not met.

Summer school is held the first 3 weeks after school is dismissed for the summer.

Attendance is required for every day of Summer School.

Tuesday, May 27-Friday, May 30

Monday, June 2-Thursday, June 5

Monday, June 9-Thursday, June 12

Digital Creative Application

DCA will meet from 8:30 am - 12:00 pm.

Speech

Speech will meet from 8:30 am - 12:00 pm.

PE1 / Health (coed) and/or PE 2 / Health (coed)

PE/Health will meet from 6:30 am - 8:00 am.

CREDIT RECOVERY

Saint Thomas Aquinas High School offers some courses for credit recovery. The coursework is offered via an online platform with lessons completed by the student at home, with tests taken in the Academic Counseling office during days the offices are open during the month of June. Please speak with Academic Counseling for more information.